



New wave of abuse suits could hit church like never before

By B. CONDON/J. MUSTIAN

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — A wave of new laws in 15 states that allow people to make claims of sexual abuse going back decades could bring a deluge of lawsuits against the Roman Catholic Church that could surpass anything seen so far in its clergy abuse crisis.

Associated Press reporting found it could result in thousands of new cases against the church and more than \$4 billion in payouts.

It's a financial reckoning playing out in such populous Catholic strongholds as New York, California and New Jersey, among the eight states that go the furthest with "lookback windows" that allow sex abuse claims no matter how old.

Continued on Page 2



In this Tuesday, Oct. 29, 2019, photo, attorney Adam Slater takes a phone call on a patio outside his high-rise Manhattan office overlooking St. Patrick's Cathedral, in New York.

Associated Press

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New wave of abuse suits could hit church like never before

Continued from Front

That has lawyers fighting for clients with TV ads and billboards asking, "Were you abused by the church?" And Catholic dioceses are considering bankruptcy, victim compensation funds and even tapping valuable real estate to stay afloat. "It's like a whole new beginning for me," said 71-year-old Nancy Holling-Lonnecker of San Diego, who plans to take advantage of an upcoming three-year window for such suits in California. Her claim dates back to the 1950s, when she says a priest repeatedly raped her in a confession booth beginning when she was 7 years old.

"The survivors coming forward now have been holding on to this horrific experience all of their lives," she said. "They bottled up those emotions all of these years because there was no place to take it."

AP interviews with more than a dozen lawyers and clergy abuse watchdog groups offered a wide range of estimates but many said they expected at least 5,000 new cases against the church in New York, New Jersey and California alone, resulting in potential payouts that could surpass the \$4 billion paid out since the clergy sex abuse first came to light in the 1980s.

Some lawyers believe pay-



In this Nov. 20, 2019, photo, Nancy Holling-Lonnecker, 71, poses with a picture taken of her as a young girl, at her home in San Diego.

Associated Press

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outs could be heavily influenced by the recent reawakening over sexual abuse fueled by the #MeToo movement, the public shaming of accused celebrities and the explosive Pennsylvania grand jury report last year that found 300 priests abused more than 1,000 children in that state over seven decades. "The general public is more disgusted than ever with the clergy sex abuse and the cover-up, and that will be reflected in jury verdicts," said Mitchell Garabedian, a Boston attorney who was at the center of numerous lawsuits against the church in that city and was portrayed in the movie "Spotlight."

Since the 15 states changed their laws within the past two years, the onslaught of lawsuits is coming in waves.

This summer, when New York state opened its one-year window allowing sexual abuse suits with no statute of limitations, more

than 400 cases against the church and other institutions were filed on the first day alone. That number is now up to more than 1,000, with most against the church. New Jersey's two-year window opens this week and California's three-year window begins in the new year, with a new provision that allows plaintiffs to collect triple damages if a demonstrable cover-up can be shown. Arizona, Montana and Vermont opened ones earlier this year.

Already, longtime clergy abuse lawyer Michael Pfau in Seattle says he's signed up about 800 clients in New York, New Jersey and California. Boston's Garabedian says he expects to file 225 in New York, plus at least 200 in a half-dozen other states. Another veteran abuse litigator, James Marsh, says he's collected more than 200 clients in New York alone.

"A trickle becomes a stream becomes a flood,"

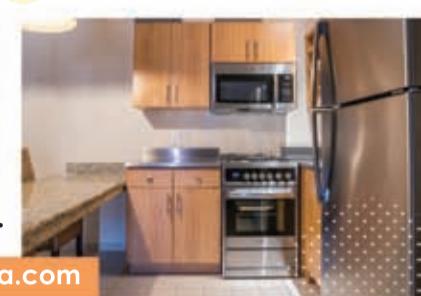
Marsh said. Church leaders who had for years lobbied statehouses against loosening statute-of-limitations laws say this is exactly the kind of feeding frenzy they were worried about. And some have bemoaned the difficulty of trying to counter accusations of abuse that happened so long ago that most witnesses have scattered and many of the accused priests are long dead.

"Dead people can't defend themselves," said Mark Chopko, former general counsel to the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. The church's response weighs heavily on compensation funds and bankruptcy.

New York Archbishop Timothy Dolan set up the first fund in 2016, pitching it as a way to compensate victims without walloping the church and forcing it to cut programs. It has since paid more than \$67 million to 338 alleged victims, an average \$200,000 each. □



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Schools, offices close as long-lived storm clobbers U.S. East

By MARY ESCH

Associated Press

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP) — A seemingly endless winter storm that hindered travel across most of the country over the long holiday weekend is delivering a last wallop as it swoops through the Northeast, dumping heavy snow, shuttering hundreds of schools and bedeviling commuters in the region Monday.

The storm dropped more than a foot of snow on parts of the region late Sunday and Monday and could bring 10 to 24 inches (25 to 60 centimeters) total by Tuesday from Pennsylvania to Maine, forecasters said. Heavy snow was also expected in the Appalachian Mountains down to Tennessee and North Carolina.

Massachusetts Gov. Charlie Baker urged drivers to use caution during the Tuesday morning commute when the storm was expected to be at its height with snow falling at 1 to 2 inches an hour in some places. Boston Mayor Marty Walsh said city schools were canceling classes and afterschool activities Tuesday.

"It's moving very slowly, so the snow is just going to continue through the day," National Weather Service meteorologist Jennifer Vogt said Monday.

By Monday afternoon, the storm had dropped 27 inches of snow in rural Delanson, New York, 25 miles (40 kilometers) northwest of Albany — the highest snow total in the Northeast so far. Forecasters predict accumulations near 30 inches by Tuesday morning in parts of Vermont's Green Mountains.

The same storm has pummeled the U.S. for days as it moved cross country, dumping heavy snow from

California to the Midwest and inundating other areas with rain.

Gov. Andrew Cuomo declared a state of emergency Monday for seven counties in eastern New York and assigned 300 National Guard members to assist with snow removal. State police had responded to more than 740 storm-related crashes statewide since the snow started falling.

"We're tough, we've seen it all, we can handle it all," Cuomo said at a storm briefing before urging people to stay off the roads. He told nonessential state employees to stay home.

But some workers had no choice but to trudge through knee-high snow and brush off their cars before heading out on the slushy roads.

"I just hate driving in snow," Kaia Jansson said as she raked snow off her car in Albany. "It's always a mess and it's cold and not fun." In Nashua, New Hampshire, Alana Kirkpatrick didn't enjoy her 5 a.m. "workout," which consisted of removing heaps of snow from her car.

"Why do I still live in New England?" she said. Hundreds of schools were closed in advance of the region's first significant storm of the season, a nor'easter so named because the winds typically come from the northeast.

"It's going to be a long, difficult storm," New Hampshire Gov. Chris Sununu said. At least four counties closed schools Monday in West Virginia, where 2 inches to a foot of snow was forecast. Closer to the heavily populated, coastal Interstate 95 corridor, a wintry mix was more likely.

The National Park Service said parts of the Blue Ridge Parkway in North Carolina

and U.S. 441 through Great Smoky Mountains National Park were closed because of heavy snow predictions. In New Jersey, Gov. Phil Murphy said Monday at a news conference that the worst was still ahead. He closed state government for nonessential workers at noon. The National Weather Service on Monday predicted that the Boston area could get 7 inches of snow with lower amounts to the south and into Rhode Island and Connecticut. Communities north of Boston could see a foot in the storm expected to reach its peak Tuesday morning, snarling the morning commute.

Rowe in western Massachusetts received 16 inches of snow from the storm that started Sunday night. More than 780 flights into



Edisa Weeks gives her 5-year-old nephew, Niko Brown, a push down a hill at the Brattleboro Little League Field, in Brattleboro, Vt., on Monday, Dec. 2, 2019.

Associated Press

or out of the U.S. were canceled Monday, with more than 5,600 delays, according to the flight tracking site FlightAware. Airports in the

New York and Boston areas accounted for many of them. There were 950 cancellations and 8,800 delays on Sunday.

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California Rep. Hunter to plead guilty to corruption charge

By JULIE WATSON
Associated Press

SAN DIEGO (AP) — California Rep. Duncan Hunter said he plans to plead guilty to misusing campaign funds and is prepared to go to jail, a stunning turn of events for the six-term Republican who had steadfastly denied wrongdoing and claimed he was the victim of a political witch hunt.

Hunter said in an interview that aired Monday that he will change his not guilty plea at a federal court hearing Tuesday. He said he wants to protect his three children from going through a trial.

His wife Margaret Hunter also was charged in the case and in June accepted a plea deal that called for her to testify against her husband.

"I think it would be really tough for them," he told San Diego TV station KUSI. "It's hard enough being the kids of a public figure. I think it's time for them to live life outside the spotlight."

Hunter, who was re-elected last year after being



In this July 1, 2019, file photo, U.S. Rep. Duncan Hunter leaves federal court after a motions hearing in San Diego.

Associated Press

indicted and was campaigning for a seventh term next year, indicated he will leave office but didn't say when.

An early supporter of President Donald Trump, Hunter said he will plead guilty to one count of misuse of campaign funds. Federal prosecutors charged he and his wife with 60 criminal counts, saying they spent more than \$250,000 in campaign money for golf outings, plane tickets and a family vacation to Italy. They also said the

money went to household items and airline tickets for their pet rabbit. Prosecutors revealed salacious details about the congressman's lifestyle, saying some money was used by Hunter to further romantic relationships with lobbyists and congressional aides. Hunter, 42, said he will accept whatever sentence the judge gives. The couple could have faced decades in prison before the plea deals. His wife faces up to five years in prison. "I think it's important that

people know I did make mistakes. I did not properly monitor or account for my campaign money," he said. "Whatever my time in custody is, I will take that hit. My only hope is that the judge does not sentence my wife to jail. I think my kids need a mom in the home."

Hunter's plea sets up the prospects for a second special House election in California next year. Freshman Rep. Katie Hill, a rising Democratic star, resigned her Los Angeles-area seat in October after explicit photos of her were posted online.

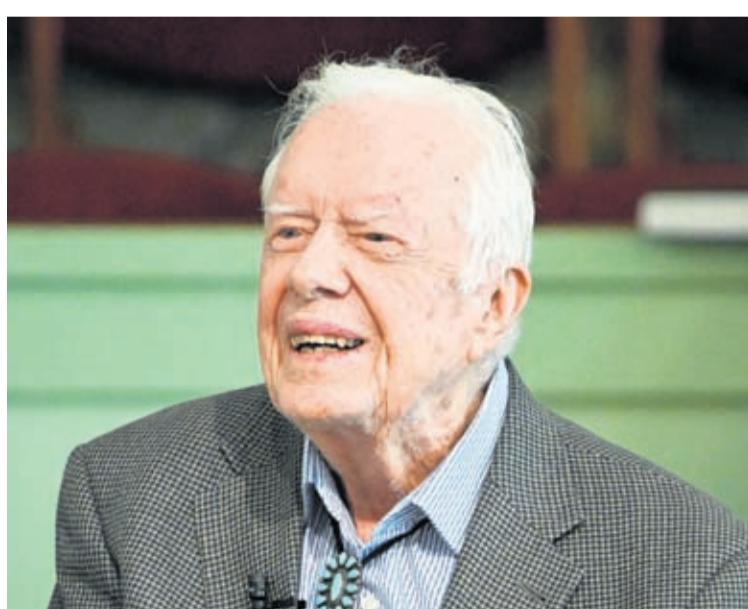
Hunter represents the 50th Congressional District, which covers eastern San Diego County and a small part of Riverside County. It is the most Republican district in Southern California, an area now nearly devoid of GOP representation.

Hunter narrowly survived a challenge in 2018 from Democrat Ammar Campa-Najjar, a political unknown. The 30-year-old Campa-Najjar is running again and Republican contenders in-

clude former Rep. Darrell Issa and radio personality Carl DeMaio, a former San Diego city councilman.

All three applauded Hunter's decision to plead guilty. Hunter is the second Republican congressman this year to plead guilty to federal charges. In October, former four-term Rep. Chris Collins of New York pleaded guilty in an insider trading case and resigned. He faces a maximum sentence of about four years in prison. Hunter's departure will mark the end of a political dynasty in which he and his father represented the district for nearly 40 years. Duncan Hunter Sr. was elected to the seat in 1980 and held it until his son won in 2008.

Until now, Hunter had resisted calls to resign, calling the charges a politically motivated attempt to drive him from office in a state where Democrats are in the majority. Following his indictment in August 2018 he said the charges were brought by prosecutors who attended a fundraiser for Hillary Clinton. □



In this Nov. 3, 2019 file photo, former President Jimmy Carter teaches Sunday school at Maranatha Baptist Church in Plains, Ga.

Associated Press

Jimmy Carter hospitalized for urinary tract infection

AMERICUS, Ga. (AP) — Former U.S. President Jimmy Carter was admitted to a south Georgia hospital over the weekend for treatment of a urinary tract infection, a spokeswoman said Monday.

Deanna Congileo, a spokeswoman for The Carter Center, said in a statement that the 95-year-old former president was admitted to Phoebe Sumter Medical Center in Americus over the weekend. "He is feeling better and looks forward to returning

home soon. We will issue a statement when he is released for further rest and recovery at home," she added. Carter has overcome several health challenges in recent years.

He was diagnosed with melanoma in 2015, announcing that the cancer had spread to other parts of his body. After partial removal of his liver, treatment for brain lesions, radiation and immunotherapy, he said he was cancer-free. A fall last spring required him to get hip replacement

surgery. Then on Oct. 6, he hit his head in another fall and received 14 stitches, but still traveled to Nashville, Tennessee, to help build a Habitat for Humanity home shortly thereafter. He fractured his pelvis in another fall later that month and was briefly hospitalized.

Last Wednesday, Carter was released from Emory University Hospital in Atlanta after recovering from surgery to relieve pressure on his brain caused by bleeding from a fall. □

U.N. Security Council to head to Washington, and Kentucky

By JENNIFER PELTZ

Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS (AP) —

The United Nations Security Council is set to meet President Donald Trump over lunch Thursday, then travel later this month to part of the U.S. that's off the beaten path for world diplomats: Kentucky.

It's the home state of Ambassador Kelly Craft, who announced the plans in brief remarks to reporters Monday as the U.S. began a stint in the council's rotating presidency.

She said the U.S. tenure would focus on how the council could gain "more credibility."

"We're speaking to the world, and I think it's really important, that we owe it as a moral obligation, not only to speak about topics that are relevant but also to have an outcome," Kraft said, calling for reflection on the council's work this year and how it might improve.

Tasked with maintaining international peace and security, the council generally sets out for hotspots when it leaves headquarters.

Visits this year have included Iraq and neighboring Kuwait, a council member; Mali, the site of the deadliest U.N. peacekeeping mission, and other countries dealing with or trying to emerge from war, violence, political crises and other strife.

The U.S. and South Africa

co-led an October trip to South Sudan, where there's a U.N. peacekeeping force, and to a meeting with African Union leaders in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The council also has traveled at times to the White House and to informal retreats or visits to members' countries.

China invited the council to visit during its November 2018 presidency, for example, in what was billed as a "side event" for members to learn more about China's participation in peacekeeping operations and get a firsthand look at its development.

Former U.S. Ambassador Nikki Haley talked about bringing council members to her home state of South Carolina in September 2018. The Carolinas were hit by a hurricane that month, and the trip ultimately didn't happen.

The U.S. mission to the U.N. didn't immediately say Monday what the theme would be for the Dec. 13-15 trip to Frankfort and Lexington, Kentucky.

Kraft said members will have a day of "sofa talks" and informal meetings, to be held at the headquarters of animal feed and beverage conglomerate Alltech Inc.

Also on the agenda: dining at the governor's mansion, watching the No. 8-ranked University of Kentucky men's basketball team play unranked Georgia Tech, and bottling some of



This photo provided by the United Nations shows United States U.N. Ambassador Kelly Craft, current President of the U.N. Security Council, during a press briefing on Monday Dec. 2, 2019, at U.N. headquarters.

Associated Press

the Bluegrass State's famed

native, became Washington's envoy to the U.N. in

September, after serving as ambassador to Canada. □

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UAW bolsters financial controls after embezzlement scandal

By TOM KRISHER

AP Auto Writer

DETROIT (AP) — The United Auto Workers union has replaced its auditing firm, added four internal auditors and hired a big accounting firm to study its financial controls in an effort to prevent a repeat of the embezzlement and bribery discovered in a federal probe of the union.

The moves announced Monday by Secretary-Treasurer Ray Curry come after last month's resignation of President Gary Jones, who has been implicated in the scandal.

Several other union officials have been charged or implicated in the probe, which embarrassed union leadership and angered many of its 400,000 members when it became public starting in 2017.

Curry said the reforms will put checks and balances in place to prevent financial misconduct.

"This top-to-bottom assessment of our financial and accounting procedures and policies will result in a stronger and more stringent financial oversight of all expenditures," Curry said in a statement Monday.

The new auditing firm, Calibre CPA Group of Bethesda, Maryland, which specializes in labor union accounting, will check the UAW's finances for the past year. In addition, the Deloitte accounting firm will



In this Dec. 4, 2015, file photo Ray Curry, a regional director of the United Auto Workers, speaks in Chattanooga, Tenn.

Associated Press

look into accounting and financial processes.

The scandal exposed weak financial controls at the union, which allowed a bribery scandal involving the Fiat Chrysler-UAW joint training center. Also exposed were embezzlement of hundreds of thousands of dollars in the purchase of 58,000 watches for union members by the UAW-General Motors training center, and a scheme at a union regional office in St. Louis involving the purchase of thousands of dollars of expensive cigars and booze, golf greens fees and rental of swanky villas for union leaders. Funds allegedly

were falsely represented as regional conference expenses.

Matthew Schneider, the U.S. Attorney in Detroit who is heading the UAW investigation, told reporters Monday that the union isn't fully cooperating, and said federal oversight including a takeover are possible.

"We're not focusing on that per se. It is an option," Schneider said.

Authorities will make a decision on a takeover or other government action after all the criminal cases are resolved, Schneider said. Authorities could also talk with the union and work out reforms, he said.

Authorities learned new information in union charges filed to oust Jones and Vance Pearson, a regional director in St. Louis, Schneider said. But the union didn't report that to authorities, he said.

"We expect that if the UAW uncovers evidence of wrongdoing that they would report it to the FBI or they would report it to the U.S. Attorney's office, or both," he said.

Schneider wouldn't comment on how long the investigation might take or whether more criminal charges are coming.

UAW spokesman Brian Rothenberg said that Rory

Gamble has put reforms in place after just three weeks as acting union president. The union is cooperating and turning over all records requested by the government, he said.

"The UAW has, as recently as last week, expressed a willingness to further work with the government on the issues of concern. And we continue to cooperate in providing the government any and all records requested," he said.

Stronger financial controls can help, but they can be evaded, so they must come with cultural changes at the union, said Shivararam Rajgopal, professor of accounting and auditing at Columbia Business School.

"It's pretty easy to get around controls," he said. "Culture is what you do when nobody is looking."

Rajgopal said it's likely that fraudulent expense reports went to lower-level people in the UAW accounting department, who probably suspected something was amiss. But lower-level workers have to worry about keeping their jobs if top officials are involved, he said. The federal probe brought an unprecedented lawsuit from General Motors last month against Fiat Chrysler, alleging the company bribed union officials to get lower labor costs than GM. Fiat Chrysler says the lawsuit is meritless. □

Greta Thunberg's North Dakota photo is at national library

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — A photo of Swedish climate activist Greta Thunberg at a Native American reservation in North Dakota has been archived at the Library of Congress in Washington.

Shane Balkowitsch, who took the photo, preserved the image on a glass plate and titled it "Standing For Us All."

Balkowitsch told the Bismarck Tribune that it's his "most important work to date."

The photo shows 16-year-old Thunberg looking into the distance during a visit



This Oct. 8, 2019 photo provided by Shane Balkowitsch shows climate activist Greta Thunberg visiting the Standing Rock Sioux Reservation in Fort Yates, N.D.

Associated Press

to the Standing Rock Sioux Reservation.

It was preserved using a method known as "wet plate collodion," which involves wetting glass with various chemicals before inserting the plate into a camera and developing the photo.

"I wanted to give nature its due respect on the plate," Balkowitsch noted.

The photographer said the image "wasn't supposed to happen," but it's the one that Thunberg chose to share with the world.

Thunberg posted it on Twitter when she left North

America on Nov. 13.

Balkowitsch had heard Thunberg would be at the reservation and made plans to meet her there, since she wasn't able to come to his studio. He recalled being told he only had 15 minutes.

Library of Congress visitors can request to view the plate.

Balkowitsch said the plate

will outlast any other printed photograph of Thunberg because it's made using silver, which does not fade over time.

"This plate will be here long after her and I are gone," he said.

Another image, a close-up Thunberg's face, will be featured at the Swedish History Museum in Stockholm. □

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Student in custody after shooting at Milwaukee-area school

By GRETCHEN EHLKE and
IVAN MORENO

Associated Press

MILWAUKEE (AP) — A police officer shot an armed male student in a classroom at a suburban Milwaukee high school Monday morning after the teenager pointed a gun at officers, a police chief said.

Officers performed life-saving measures on the 17-year-old Waukesha South High School student, who is in custody and in stable condition, and no officers or other students were injured, Waukesha Police Chief Russell Jack said.

The shooting happened after another student told a school resource officer that a classmate had a handgun around 10:17 a.m., Jack said. He said the resource officer went to the classroom to confront the teen and move other students in the room to safety. Authorities have not said if other students were in the classroom during the ensuing standoff, and Jack did not immediately respond to an email seeking clarity. Waukesha police and sheriff's deputies soon arrived at the school and tried to de-escalate the situation to no avail.

"The suspect would not remove his hands from his pocket and continued to ignore officers' commands," Jack said.

"The suspect removed his handgun from his waistband and pointed it at the officers. An officer was forced to discharge his firearm, striking the suspect."

The officer who shot the student is an 11-year veter-

an of the Waukesha Police Department, Jack said. Police have not said whether the student ever fired his weapon. Police said the shooting was an isolated incident and that they are not seeking any other suspects.

Andrew Oresick, 16, told the Journal Sentinel that he was outside his Spanish class hanging posters with other students and their teacher when they heard a commotion.

"These kids start running out from the classroom directly across from us, and one of them goes: 'He's got a gun,'" Oresick recalled. He said their Spanish teacher immediately got them into the classroom.

Parents gathered outside and hugged students as they streamed out of the school about 18 miles (30 kilometers) west of Milwaukee. Some students said they took cover under desks and teachers barricaded doors when a drill was announced.

They told reporters outside the school that they knew it wasn't a drill when they heard two or three gunshots.

"It was just really scary," Alexis Grady, a senior, told the Journal Sentinel.

Waukesha North High School was placed on lockdown after a report Monday afternoon that a student had a firearm, Waukesha police said. The school resource officer determined it was possible the student was inside the school.

Additional officers responded and determined the



Waukesha South High School students find their waiting parents and friends and hug after they leave the building following shots fired inside the school, Monday, December 2, 2019.

Associated Press

student was no longer on school property.

Officers went to the 15-year-old boy's home. He was taken into custody without incident and a facsimile firearm was found hidden in the home, police said. No one was hurt.

School shootings have occasionally shone a spotlight on the response by guards and school resource officers. Armed school resource officers have rarely prevented a school shooting.

Last year, armed guards at three high-profile school shootings — Marshall Coun-

ty High School in Benton, Kentucky; Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida; and Santa Fe High School in Texas — were unable to stop the rampage.

In Parkland, the school's resource officer remained outside rather than enter the building to engage the shooter and try to end the attack.

Gun-rights advocates believe having more armed educators and law enforcement in schools will help stop a shooter in his tracks.

Gun-control advocates

contend that arming teachers and having more guns in a school will do little to prevent school shootings and that such moves could put kids at greater risk.

An estimated 43% of public schools have an armed law enforcement officer on-site, according to a survey by the National Center for Education Statistics. The survey covered the 2015-16 school year, the most recent year surveyed. That figure doesn't include schools with armed private security guards or teachers and administrators who carry firearms. □

Defense budgets set to dominate yet another NATO summit

By LORNE COOK

Associated Press

BRUSSELS (AP) — Despite pleas to set aside bickering over military spending so the issue doesn't dominate a third NATO summit in a row, the United States is almost certain to demand again this week that its 28 NATO partners respect their pledges to boost defense budgets.

NATO countries slashed spending as tensions eased after the Cold War.

But Russia's 2014 annexation of Ukraine's Crimean Peninsula was a wake-up call. The allies agreed then to halt cuts, boost budgets and move toward spending 2% of gross domestic product on defense by 2024.

The 2% figure is perhaps too simplistic in that its value fluctuates depending on how economies perform. Moreover, countries calculate their defense budgets differently; some want veterans pensions included, for example. Correct spending levels don't guarantee that adequate forces can be deployed into battle in a timely way and sustained by efficient supply lines. Nor do they have a relationship



A police car drives past Parliament Square, ahead of the NATO summit, in London, Monday, Dec. 2, 2019.

Associated Press

to any real security threat assessment.

Importantly, this is about national military budgets, not NATO funding. No one owes the United States money, even though Washington spends more on defense than all the other allies combined.

That said, European allies and Canada rely heavily on U.S. equipment like large military transport planes

and air-to-air refueling, and NATO's deterrent effect is more credible backed by the United States.

Nine countries are projected to meet the 2% benchmark this year — the U.S. with about 3.4%, Greece, Britain, Bulgaria, Estonia, Poland, Latvia, Lithuania and Romania — up from three nations in 2014. Germany will spend 1.35%, ranking it 17th, but it aims

to hit 1.5% by the deadline. Spain, Belgium and Luxembourg spend less than 1%. While budgets have risen since 2014, NATO headquarters chooses to use 2016 — the year Donald Trump was elected U.S. president — as its reference point for spending increases. Officials concede privately that this is to mollify Trump.

According to new numbers

released on Friday, European Allies and Canada will add \$130 billion to their defense budgets by the end of 2020. Germany will account for around 20% of that increase. A total of some \$400 billion more is expected to be added by 2024.

Germany, the main victim of Trump's ire, says its current spending meets NATO planning requirements, and plans to spend 2% by around 2031.

Aside from national budgets, NATO also has a smaller in-house budget worth around \$2 billion to run the organization's headquarters in Brussels and provide some common funding to military operations around the world.

NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg said Thursday that the United States will in future pay less into that pot, with Germany helping to fill the gap. He said Washington and Berlin will pay "roughly 16%" each of the total budget going forward. The U.S. was previously the biggest contributor, paying about 22%. Other European allies will also pay more, apart from France, which has refused. □

Germany: Merkel's party rejects full overhaul of coalition

By GEIR MOULSON

Associated Press

BERLIN (AP) — Chancellor Angela Merkel's party is rejecting a root-and-branch renegotiation of the agreement underpinning Germany's government after the junior coalition partner elected leaders who want new concessions, but it was unclear Monday how acute the risk is of the coalition falling apart. Members of the center-left Social Democrats on Saturday chose left-leaning duo Norbert Walter-Borjans and Saskia Esken as their new leaders. They rejected a rival team that included Vice Chancellor Olaf Scholz and strongly favored staying in Merkel's coalition. Walter-Borjans and Esken are more skeptical, though



Norbert Walter-Borjans, left, and Saskia Esken celebrate after winning the member voting of the Social Democratic Party, SPD, chairmanship at the party's headquarters in Berlin, Germany, Saturday, Nov. 30, 2019.

Associated Press

they haven't advocated a quick exit. They have suggested renegotiating issues such as the level of the minimum wage, climate protection and investment, but it's unclear

how far their demands will go.

A party congress starting Friday is likely to show what the Social Democrats want to achieve to stay in the coalition, nearly

two years before the next election is due. The party is mired in a long-term poll slump, which some blame on its status as Merkel's junior partner for 10 of the past 14 years.

Merkel's Union bloc has made clear that it sees no need for a significant overhaul. The coalition deal thrashed out last year features a provision for a midterm review including consideration of whether "new plans must be agreed in light of current developments." The leader of Merkel's center-right Christian Democratic Union, Annegret Kramp-Karrenbauer, told ZDF television Monday the new leadership doesn't amount to a major change "as a result of which we have to completely renegotiate

a coalition." The coalition agreement "is the basis on which we are working, and it is valid for the whole parliamentary term," she said. "We are concentrating on dedicating ourselves to work of substance — we are not a therapy facility for the coalition parties." She noted that both the other parties in the coalition have changed their leaders since the government took office without demanding a renegotiation.

While she and other conservatives are firmly ruling out a radical renegotiation, it's possible that there may be some room for talks that fall short of that — and unlikely that the Union will want to be seen as responsible for the coalition collapsing. □

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U.N. chief urges countries not to surrender on climate fight

By ARITZ PARRA and FRANK JORDANS

Associated Press

MADRID (AP) — U.N. Secretary-General António Guterres urged countries Monday not to lose hope in the fight against climate change, as representatives from nearly 200 countries gathered in Madrid for a two-week meeting on tackling global warming. In his opening speech to delegates, Guterres cited recent scientific data showing that levels of heat-trapping gases have hit a record high, reaching levels not seen for at least 3 million years when sea levels were 10-20 meters (33-66 feet) higher than today. Unless emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases are sharply cut, temperatures could rise to twice the threshold set in the 2015 Paris accord by the end of the century, he warned.

"Do we really want to be remembered as the generation that buried its head in the sand, that fiddled while the planet burned?" Guterres asked.

His appeal came after Chile's environment minister, Carolina Schmidt, said the Dec. 2-13 meeting needs to lay the groundwork for moving toward carbon-neutral economies while being sensitive to the poorest and those most vulnerable to rising temperatures — something that policymakers have termed "just transition."

"Those who don't want to see it will be on the wrong side of history," said Schmidt, who is chairing the meeting. She called on governments to make more ambitious pledges



House Speaker Nancy Pelosi of Calif. speaks during a press conference at the COP25 climate talks summit in Madrid, Monday Dec. 2, 2019.

Associated Press

to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases ahead of a deadline to do so next year.

The summit, which moved to the Spanish capital after Chile had to pull out amid anti-government protests, aims to put the finishing touches to the rules governing the 2015 Paris accord.

That involves creating a functioning international emissions-trading system and compensating poor countries for losses they suffer from rising sea levels and other consequences of climate change.

"We have a common challenge but with differentiated needs and urgencies, which we can only overcome if we work together," said Schmidt.

Countries agreed in Paris four years ago to limit global warming to well below 2 degrees Celsius (3.6 Fahrenheit), ideally 1.5C (2.7F)

by the end of the century compared with pre-industrial times.

Already, average temperatures have increased by about 1C, leaving little room for the more ambitious target to be met. Guterres called out big greenhouse gas emitters that are still building coal-fired power plants, saying that unless the world stops burning coal "all our efforts to tackle climate change will be doomed."

He noted that had countries started cutting their emissions drastically a decade ago, reaching the Paris goal would have been much easier.

"Ten years ago, if countries had acted on the science, they would have needed to reduce emissions by 3.3% each year," he said. "Today, we need to reduce emissions by 7.6% each year."

"The impact on all life on

the planet — including ours — would be catastrophic," he added.

"The only solution is rapid, ambitious, transformative action by all — governments, regions, cities, businesses and civil society, all working toward a common goal."

Organizers expect around 29,000 visitors at the meeting, including around 50 heads of state and government for Monday's opening session.

In contrast to the European Union, which sent its newly sworn-in executive leadership team to the summit, the rest of the world's largest carbon emitters — the United States, China and India — have sent lower-level ministers and officials. The U.S. sent a delegation, led by Ambassador Marcia Bernicat, a senior State Department official, even though President Donald Trump has formally begun

the process of pulling the country out of the Paris accord.

However, that won't be technically completed until Nov. 4, 2020.

But Democratic members of Congress led by House Speaker Nancy Pelosi said the nation remains committed to the 2015 agreement's goals and that climate change poses a threat to public health, the economy and national security.

"We're still in it," Pelosi said. Asked about comments by Spain's interim prime minister, Pedro Sánchez, that "only a handful of fanatics deny the evidence" of man-made global warming, Pelosi responded that she had "three words that describe how we address this: science, science and science. And maybe four: science, again."

"If we can stick with the science, I think we can come up with some sane solutions to it all," she said.

In an interview with The Associated Press, the U.N. chief hoped that stricter goals in Europe would allow EU leaders to convince fellow big polluters "to understand that this must be a collective effort and that they all will have to correct their policies in order to drastically be able to reduce the emissions." □

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In death and life, Lebanese woman shows religious law fight

By MARIAM FAM
Associated Press

BEIRUT (AP) — Nadyn Jouney's sister taped up two messages in her memory inside a closet at the family home — one of motherly love tinged with pain, another of defiance.

The first Jouney wrote to her 9-year-old son on the one day a week she was allowed to see him under a custody ruling by a Shiite religious court. "Peace be upon the holy nights when you fall asleep near me," she wrote. "Peace be upon the trace of love painted on your face and features ... This is my night."

That night, Oct. 4, would be her last with her son. Two days later, Jouney was killed in a car accident at age 29.

The second message, written by a relative, has a photo of a smiling Jouney with her son's arms wrapped around her neck. "They think your voice has disappeared. Nadyn, we are your voice; get some rest...we will fight for you," it declares.

In death as in life, Jouney — affectionately called Om Karam, Arabic for "mother of Karam" — has showcased the struggles of Lebanese women who are battling laws that give religious courts say over many aspects of their lives.

Lebanon allows its many religious sects to govern personal status issues in their communities, resulting in 15 different sets of laws over such things as rules for marriage, divorce and custody and visitation of children. In cases of divorce for Shiite Muslims like Jouney, the Shiite religious courts usually grant custody of children to the fathers at age two for sons and age seven for daughters. Jouney waged a campaign — online and in street protests — against the laws ever since she lost custody of her son and was given visitation rights of only 24 hours a week.

Supporters of the system say it reflects the country's plurality of faiths. Critics say it discriminates against women of all faiths and means women are treated differently based on

their sect. For example, divorced Sunni mothers can keep sons and daughters until age 12.

sectarian politics. "Unfortunately, this renaissance that we've witnessed and seen on the

with a scarf, said she was so amazed she broke into tears. "What a way to shatter taboos. I couldn't be-

police station where she was taken.

"Where are we headed when our mothers die feeling oppressed and when we are depriving our children of their mothers when they're still alive?" she said. Sheikh Moussa al-Samoury, a judge who sits on one of the Shiite courts, said, "Religious matters are not subject to street pressure. The issue has to do with God's satisfaction; God wants this or doesn't want this," adding, "The judge is not acting on a whim or on what he wants." But, he said, he and his fellow judges have room to consider the children's best interest on a case-by-case basis. "If he's a bad father and is not to be trusted, we don't award him custody," he said.

Ahmad Taleb, a Shiite cleric, said the solution is to reform the rules of religious courts, noting that there is more than one opinion on the custody issue in Shiite jurisprudence. He supports raising the maternal custody age to at least seven while allowing judges to leave the kids with the mother longer when it's in their best interest.

"Religion in its essence is mercy, not plastic texts," he said. "People who are religiously devout, and I am one of them, demand change." He said failing to provide solutions within the religious context could drive people to look elsewhere. "Today in Lebanon, there are complaints about religious courts of all sects, Muslim and Christian."

Zeina Ibrahim, who founded a campaign to raise the age of maternal custody, said she supports the idea of a unified civil law for personal status but believes it is a "far dream." A more attainable goal, she said, is to raise the age to seven for boys and nine for girls.

In many of her photos, Jouney flashes a wide, seemingly carefree smile that belies the anguish her family says she kept private. "She would tell me, 'Mama, I'm burning from the inside. My son is getting older and I know nothing about him,'" her mother Majida said. □



In this Nov. 17, 2019 photo, Majida holds a photo of her daughter Nadyn Jouney as she attends a 40 day mourning ceremony of her death in a car accident, at their family house in southern Beirut, Lebanon.

Associated Press

"Women have really borne the brunt of the sectarian system of governance and we see that in the personal status laws," said Lama Fakih, Human Rights Watch Beirut office director. "These are egregious abuses that are resulting in violence against women, that are resulting in outcomes where children are not being taken care of by the parent that is most suited to take care of the child, where families are really not well served."

Multiple solutions and demands have been put forward: reform or oversight of the religious courts, an option of a civil system for those who don't want to use religious courts, or a unified civil personal status law for all.

Protests convulsing Lebanon for more than a month have given a new platform for those demanding change. The protests erupted over proposed new taxes and escalated into calls for the removal of Lebanon's entire political elite and its sectarian power-sharing system.

Zoya Rouhana of the feminist organization KAFA said the myriad of personal status laws is intertwined with

streets lately through the leadership of women ... is not reflected in the laws," she told a small group who had gathered to discuss a KAFA-proposed draft for a civil personal status law.

Jouney died just before the current protests. But her face or name have at times appeared on protesters' signs and banners. "The beautiful revolutionary ... Your soul is present here with us," read one. At a memorial marking 40 days since her death, candles spelling out her name in Arabic lit up a main Beirut protest square. "We cannot delay issues of women's rights ... Death does not wait," read a pin on her sister Nada's chest.

Badia Fahs, a 49-year-old who has turned out for the current round of protests, first met Jouney at a protest years ago. She remembers a young woman, her hair down, wearing — Fahs thought disapprovingly — too much red lipstick. Jouney was chanting, "Corruption, corruption, it's underneath the turbans," a controversial slogan she became known for, referring to allegations against some religious judges.

Fahs, who covers her hair

lieve it," she said. "Even our men cannot talk like that." "I would look at her and think here's this young girl who feels like she can change the world and she is not afraid — not of a sect or of clerics ... What am I lacking?" Fahs said.

Lawyer Fadia Hamzeh said she often hears criticism from her Shiite community that she is scandalizing them. She founded a Facebook page called "Revolution of a Shiite woman" to educate women about their rights in the Shiite courts, share their stories and let them know that "if you don't rebel, you won't get your rights."

"We opened the door. Most families are suffering from tragedies. I didn't create this," she said. "We must offer an example for other sects because just like we have injustices in religious courts, other sects do too." Hamzeh was inspired by the ordeal of her sister, who made news in 2016 when she was arrested and held for a few days over her refusal to turn over her son to his father. Jouney, she said, was one of the people who helped her sister's case become public and led chants in a march to the



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The designated director general of International Atomic Energy Agency, IAEA, Rafael Mariano Grossi from Argentina, delivers a speech at the beginning of a general conference of the IAEA, at the International Center in Vienna, Austria, Monday, Dec. 2, 2019.

Associated Press

New U.N. nuclear agency chief: "firm and fair" stance on Iran

By PHILIPP JENNE
Associated Press

VIENNA (AP) — The incoming head of the U.N.'s atomic watchdog agency said Monday he will take a "firm and fair" approach toward inspections of Iran's nuclear facilities, and plans to visit Tehran in the near future.

Argentine diplomat Rafael Mariano Grossi's comments came after he was confirmed as the new director general of the International Atomic Energy Agency unanimously at a special session. His four-year term begins on Tuesday.

The 58-year-old succeeds Yukiya Amano, who died in July, and takes over at a time when the nuclear deal between Iran and world powers is unraveling. The landmark 2015 deal known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action promised Iran economic incentives in exchange for curbs on its nuclear program. The IAEA's role has been to inspect and verify Iran's compliance with the

deal. With the unilateral withdrawal of the United States from the agreement last year and the imposition of new American sanctions, Iran's economy has been struggling. So far, the other nations involved — France, Germany, Britain, China and Russia — have been unable to offset the effects, and Iran has slowly been violating the terms of the JCPOA.

Tehran is, however, continuing to provide IAEA inspectors access. Grossi told reporters he expected to travel to Iran himself in the "relatively near future" to meet with leaders there. "It is really a priority," he said of the situation in Iran, adding that his philosophy on inspection safeguards was to be "firm and fair."

"An inspector is not a friend. He's someone who comes and needs to ascertain the facts without bias, without agenda, in an objective and impartial way," Grossi said. "This has to be done in firmness, but in fairness as well." □



A woman holds her malnourished boy at a feeding center at Al-Sabeen hospital in Sanaa, Yemen, Saturday, Nov. 23, 2019.

Associated Press

Group: 5 more years of Yemen war to cost \$29 billion in aid

By SAMY MAGDY
Associated Press

CAIRO (AP) — Another five years of fighting in Yemen would cost as much as \$29 billion just to sustain the current level of humanitarian aid, an international relief group said Monday, a sum that amounts to more than the entire annual humanitarian budget globally.

The war in Yemen has killed over 100,000 people and created the world's worst humanitarian crisis, leaving millions suffering from food and medical shortages. A report by the International Rescue Committee says that 24 million Yemenis, or 80% of the population, need humanitarian aid and 16 million are living on the verge of famine. The war also caused Yemen's economy to shrink by 50%, it said.

The group warned that with the current rate of aid, it would take 20 years to return Yemen to pre-conflict levels of child hun-

ger, which is "twice the agreed timetable for ending malnutrition around the world," according to David Miliband, president of the IRC.

An estimated 160,000 Yemeni children under five years old suffered from severe acute malnutrition, the report said.

"Today's grim predictions are an insight into the colossal cost of the Age of Impunity: where wars are fought with a complete disregard for civilian life and neglected by diplomats charged with ending the violence and holding perpetrators of international law to account," Miliband said.

The conflict in Yemen began with the 2014 take-over of the capital, Sanaa, by Iranian-backed Houthi rebels who control much of the country's north. A Saudi-led coalition allied with the internationally recognized government has been fighting the Houthis

since March 2015. The IRC said the conflict has displaced 3 million people, including over 350,000 in 2019 alone. It called on the U.S., Britain and France to pressure the warring parties into an immediate and countrywide cease-fire, and to return to peace talks.

It said a cease-fire brokered by the U.N. last December in the Yemeni port of Hodeida, the main passageway for aid and a lifeline for Houthi-controlled areas, prevented massive humanitarian suffering "but the agreement remains a localized effort." The deal, which also included a prisoner swap, has yet to be fully implemented.

Also, the IRC said the recent power-sharing agreement which ended weeks of infighting between the internationally recognized government and the southern separatists "offers hope for more inclusive peace talks." □

Mexican border town gripped by fear after gunbattle kills 22

By MARIA VERZA

Associated Press

VILLA UNION, Mexico (AP)

— A small town near the U.S.-Mexico border began cleaning up Monday, gripped by fear after the killing of 22 people in a ferocious weekend gunbattle between drug cartel members and security forces.

A 72-year-old woman living near Villa Union's city hall recounted how she huddled with two of her grandchildren inside an armoire during the shooting.

The street in front of her home was littered with shell casings, and her walls and door were pocked with bullet holes.

"I'm still trembling," she said, speaking on condition of anonymity out of fear for her safety. "We've never seen anything like this. It was as if they just wanted to sow terror."

Around midday Saturday, armed men in a convoy of dozens of vehicles arrived in Villa Union and began shooting up city hall. Many of the vehicles were emblazoned with the cartel's initials — CDN, for Cartel del Noreste, or Northeast Cartel — as were the attackers' bulletproof vests.

Coahuila Gov. Miguel Riquelme said state security forces arrived within an hour and surrounded the town, about 35 miles (60 kilometers) southwest of Eagle Pass, Texas.



Police guard the highway leading to Villa Union, Mexico, Sunday, Dec. 1, 2019, the day after it was assaulted by gunmen.

Associated Press

Sixteen gunmen were killed, along with four state police officers and two civilians, he said.

On Monday morning, the town of about 6,000 people was strewn with burned-out vehicles, and the city hall's facade was so riddled with bullet holes it looked like a sieve.

Workers swept up glass and rubble out front and began to plaster over the holes, while others collected important documents. Broken glass covered the floor, a crucifix had fallen from a wall, furniture was destroyed, and portraits of local politicians were

pierced by bullets.

Outside lay a burned SUV, a shot-up ambulance and a yellow school bus with CDN spray-painted on the side.

Shops nearby cleaned up rather than open for business. Despite the presence of soldiers and federal police patrolling the quiet streets, no one sent their children to school, and residents did not want to give their names for fear the gunmen could return.

"They wanted to send a message" to the state government, Riquelme told the Mexican network Radio Formula.

He said the Northeast Cartel, based in nearby Tamaulipas state, has made 15 attempts to establish itself in Coahuila since he became governor two years ago.

"We have not permitted the entrance of these criminals in our entity," he said. "They thought they were going to enter, strike and exit, something that didn't happen."

The Northeast Cartel is an offshoot of the Zetas, a cartel with roots in elite military units. The Zetas long dominated Nuevo Laredo and Tamaulipas state and were known for military-style operations and grotesque

violence intended to intimidate their enemies.

Villa Union is 12 miles (20 kilometers) from the town of Allende, the site of a 2011 massacre involving the Zetas in which officials say 70 died.

Villa Union residents wondered why their town was targeted with such fury. A woman who declined to give her name likened the attack to being in a war zone and said, "They caught us off guard."

The governor said that all hostages taken Saturday, including five minors, had been rescued. Cartel members had taken some locals with them as guides as they tried to make their escape along back roads.

Of the 25 vehicles seized, four carried .50-caliber machine guns. Dozens of homes were damaged.

On Monday afternoon, the family of a civil defense worker who was one of the two civilians killed in the shooting held a wake for the father of four children. Still terrified, all declined to speak or be identified. His widow said only, "He didn't do anything bad."

Mexico's homicide rate has increased to historically high levels this year. After a string of massacres, critics have charged that President Andrés Manuel López Obrador's government does not have a coherent security strategy. □

Haitian schools reopen after months of unrest

By EVENS SANON and MICHAEL WEISSENSTEIN

Associated Press

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti

(AP) — Protected by police patrols, thousands of Haitian children began to return to school Monday after months of violent unrest forced schools to shut around the country.

Some schools were about a quarter full in response to the Education Ministry's call last week to reopen public and private schools.

Others had only a handful of students or didn't open at all.

Like virtually all government offices and private businesses, Haitian schools



Students listen to school Director Jean Marc Charles at the Lycée school, which reopened about a week earlier than other schools in Petion-Ville, Haiti, Thursday, Nov. 28, 2019.

Associated Press

closed during more than two months of protests aimed at pressuring President Jovenel Moïse to

leave office. Protesters say Moïse has mismanaged the economy and tolerated corruption.

Moïse says he is trying to steer the country toward greater stability and will not cede to what he calls unconstitutional demands for him to leave office before his term is over.

High school senior Yollande Chery arrived at her school to find only four other students and one teacher.

"It hurts knowing that in other countries schools are in session," she said.

"Staying home is not what I want to do. I want to be at school with my friends."

At the public Lycée de Petionville, in a relatively prosperous section of the capital, about 400 children showed up for class. The

school holds about 2,000 students when at full enrollment. Director Jean-Marc Charles said the school had been trying to keep older students up to date by sending them homework assignments through online chat program WhatsApp.

He said the school would hold classes on Saturdays and eliminate all but a couple of days of Christmas vacation in order to help students try to catch up on their studies.

He said that the school had no choice but to close during the protests, which included roadblocks, clashes with police and ransacking of local businesses. □

LOCAL



Eagle Aruba Casino and Double Down Sports bar & Grill: The place to be for this Saturday's UFC event

EAGLE BEACH — We have an UFC Fight Night Viewing Party at DD (Double Down Sports Bar & Grill) this Saturday, December 7 at 7:00pm. The main card will be Heavyweight Bout Alistair Overeem vs Jairzinho Rozenstruik and under-card Women's Strawweight Bout Claudia Gadelha vs Cynthia Calvillo as well as Heavyweight Bout Stefan Struve vs Ben Rothwell and Women's Bantamweight Bout Aspen Ladd vs Yana Kunitskaya.

The UFC event can be seen on 34 HDMI TV's, 6 Giant Screens and heard through a surround sound system in a fully air-conditioned comfortable bar. Join the Live Viewing Party event of BIGI BOY's upcoming UFC heavyweight fight at Double Down Sports Bar & Grill. One of the breakout success stories of 2019, Rozen-



struik has made short work of Junior Albini, Allen Crowder and Arlovski since joining the UFC roster, and now he's eager to test himself against veteran contender Overeem, who has won two straight over Sergei Pavlovich and Aleksei Oleinik.

Already 3-0 start to his UFC career Jairzinho Rozenstruik with Gregory Miliard in his corner recently knocked out former UFC heavyweight champion Andrei Arlovski at UFC 244

and steps into his first main event December 7, event at Capital One Arena to take on Alistair Overeem. Alistair 'The Demolition Man' Overeem is looking to keep his championship hopes alive in the category. A perennial contender, Overeem has fought the who's who of mixed martial arts throughout a storied career and has delivered spectacular knockouts on many occasions. He'll be looking to secure his third consecutive stoppage win



and stake a claim on a title bout.

Claudia Gadelha and Cynthia Calvillo will also battle it out in the women's straw weight division, while Stefan Struve and Ben Rothwell step up in the heavyweight category. Rounding out the card is UFC top young gun, Aspen Ladd on a comeback after the controversial loss at the hands of De Randamie, she'll be looking to make amends against Yana Kunitskaya

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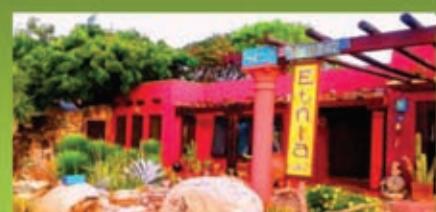
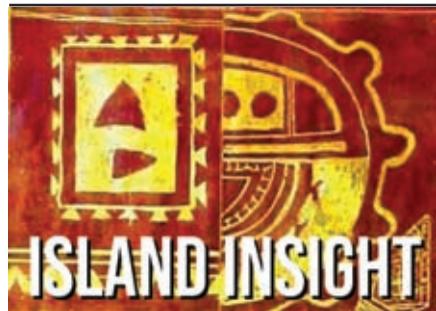
PALM BEACH — Recently, Kimberley Richardson of the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure to honor Aruba's loyal and friendly visitors as Distinguished Visitors of Aruba. The symbolic Distinguished Visitor certificate is presented on behalf of the Minister of Tourism, as a token of appreciation to guests who visit Aruba 10 years and more consecutively.

The honorees were couple **David and Doretta Curtis** from USA!

This lovely couple stated that Aruba is and will always be their second home. They fell in love with the island the first time they visited back in 2007. Furthermore, this couple expressed that they love Aruba, especially for its year-round sunny weather, nice sandy beaches and picturesque sunsets, delicious variety of foods, its rich culture, and Aruba's warm and friendly people who became like family to them.

Richardson together with the representatives of the Barceló Aruba, presented the certificate to the honorees, handed over some presents and also thanked them for choosing Aruba as their favorite vacation destination and as their home-away-from-home. □





Article by Etnia Nativa

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The hummingbird – our “Blenchi”

ORANJESTAD — The hummingbird symbolizes many different concepts, due to its speed, the hummingbird is known as a messenger and guardian of time. It also has meanings of love, joy and beauty.

The movements of the hummingbird symbolize infinity, eternity and continuity, it can fly back teaching us that we can remember our past, however, this bird also teaches us that we should not insist on our past and we have to move on.

The hummingbird drinks the nectar of flowers, which means that we must savor every moment and appreciate the things we love; it also teaches us the medicinal properties of plants and how to work with the energy of flowers to heal ourselves and others.

The hummingbird has a very powerful spiritual meaning. In the regions of the Andes in South America, the hummingbird means resurrection.

The hummingbird is the protector of the warriors and messenger of the gods. To show their importance, in this case among the Aztecs, it is enough to remember that it was the hummingbird that led them to Aztlan. This beautiful bird, which in Nahuatl is called Huitzilin, is considered the nahual of war.

The old Maya's tell us that the Gods

created all things on Earth and each one was commissioned with a job. When they finished they knew that there was no one in charge of carrying their desires and thoughts from one place to another. As they no longer had mud or corn to make another animal, they took a jade stone and with it they carved a very small arrow. When she was ready, they blew on her and the little arrow flew out. It was no longer an arrow, now it had life: the gods had created the x ts'unu'um, that is, the hummingbird. Its feathers were so fragile and so light, that the hummingbird could approach the most delicate flowers without moving a single petal. It shone under the sun like raindrops and reflected all the colors. Then, the men tried to catch that beautiful bird to decorate with its feathers. The Gods, seeing them, became angry and said that if someone dared to catch a hummingbird, they would be punished. That's why hummingbirds can't be kept in cages. The Gods created them to fly freely.

Continued on Page 15



Pic.1. Male common Emerald Hummingbird in our garden at Etnia Nativa

Episode XLVI (46)



Pic. 2. Hummingbird artistic representations of an Aruban pictograph recreated by our artist curator



The hummingbird – our “Blenchi”

Continued from Page 14

But the Gods not only created these beautiful birds and made them free. They also assigned them a job: hummingbirds would have to carry the thoughts of men and the gods themselves from here to there. That is why, according to legend, when a hummingbird appears before you suddenly, it is carrying a message of love and affection from someone who is thinking of you, of this land or beyond.

In Aruba there are two different species of hummingbirds, which are the common emerald Chlorestilbon mellisugus, a relatively large and the other less common hummingbird is the Ruby-topaz Hummingbird Crysolampis mosquitus which have reddish, rounded tails unlike the blue, forked tail of the Blue-tailed Emerald, which is not for Aruba. Male Ruby-topaz Hummingbirds have a beautiful orange throat and reddish head, though in poor light it can look dark. We rarely see this species at the flowering shrubs in contrast to the Blue-tailed Emerald.

Only female builds nest, incubates, cares for young and defends nest site. Breeding activity thought to take place throughout the year, apparently strongly dependent on flowering trees and shrubs and hence generally highest toward the end of rainy periods. Nests with eggs recorded in February, March, May, June, October and December. Nest delicate, cup-shaped, made from silken cotton of plant-fibers and seeds. □



Episode XLVI (46)



Pic. 3 Nesting Ruby Topaz and a male in flight

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Vegan Weekend at Arawak Garden

Dragonfly is offering a 3-course vegan choice menu

PALM BEACH — Vegan is healthy and sustainable, but most importantly: it's tasty! The restaurants affiliated with Yummy Aruba in Arawak Garden are hosting Aruba's first Vegan Weekend on December 6, 7 and 8. In addition, the restaurants will also serve specials on vegan wine and vegan cocktails.

Dragonfly's chef gives you vegan appetizer options of clear shiitake mushroom soup and a vegan roll in soy paper. For your main course it's a choice between veggie pad thai and a garden roll in rice paper. Of course, your dinner is topped with a dessert of wild berries, vanilla or chocolate ice cream.

Fishes & More has been serving a vegan menu for quite some time now and many vegans have already enjoyed the tasteful creations of chef Bruno. For Yummy's Vegan Weekend Fishes & More offers a 3-course choice menu with calamari vegani and coconut lemongrass noodle soup as appetizer options. For mains you may choose between portobello stuffed chickpea piccata and its famous tropical tofu tower.



Leave some space for dessert: peanut butter brownie à la mode.

Vegan tapas are awesome! Salt & Pepper includes two tapas in its vegan menu during Vegan Weekend. The first appetizer tapa is a crispy teriyaki tofu with avocado, sesame seeds, scallions and Cam-

pari-orange foam. The second is the Taco Al Pastor which comes with sriracha mayo. The other appetizer choice is the vegan wrap, which comes with portobello mushrooms, fresh avocado, roasted bell pepper hummus, strawberries, romaine lettuce with a zesty ginger turmeric sauce. As

main course you will be served chicken schnitzel, cilantro-spinach rice, sarda criolla, baked potato, served with ocpa sauce. A vegan black ganache is for dessert.

Ever tried a vegan steak? Well, it's on the menu for Vegan Weekend at Tango Argentine Grill. The menu



Aruba to Me

ORANJESTAD — Aruba Today likes to welcome readers to participate in our newspaper. You can see that in our Honored Guest-publications, specials like on Valentine's Day and on other occasions. Throughout the year you are always welcome to send us your vacation picture(s) together with completing the sentence: Aruba to me is (Email: news@arubatoday.com)

For today's newspaper we received a great picture from Dr. Pattilee Berridge and Thomas Kazanji from Westchester, NY. They wrote:

Aruba to us is.... AWESOME!

My wife and I combined have been here well over a 100 times, that's not a typo yes over 100! She would come down with her parents for 2 months twice a year and she would do her school work from L.I. NY. This started in the late 60's. A very empty island at the time. We come every Thanksgiving for two weeks. For the amount of times we've been here we are not old only 60. Not a better place to go and I send everyone and we've been everywhere in the world and also love skiing! We have stayed at all the hotels but the RIU is our favorite and we get a suite. Everyone knows us and we have watched the staff grow from small to big and there continued success.

Happy Holidays!!

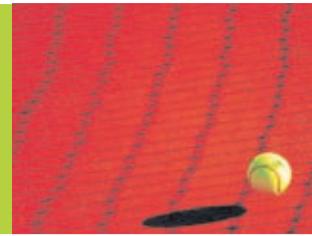


shows eggplant as appetizer, a vegan filet mignon with mashed potatoes and veggies as main course and a fruits skewer for dessert.

At Sopranos, as well as all the Yummy Aruba restaurants in Arawak Garden you can enjoy a vegan cocktail that weekend: the Momo Special. This delicious cocktail with a handful of fresh mint makes it a perfect drink for Aruba's hot weather and is made of vodka, lemon juice, simple syrup, fresh mint, soda and topped with oregano essential oil. All venues will also serve vegan certified wines.

Be sure to make your reservations in advance to secure your table. The easiest way to do this, is by visiting yummyaruba.com, select your favorite restaurant and book your table. Yes, Let's Go Vegan! □

SPORTS



Net gains: NHL's load management is top goalies playing less

By STEPHEN WHYNO
AP Hockey Writer

Marc-Andre Fleury plays when he's told.

How much he plays has changed.

A decade ago, Fleury started 61 out of 82 games before backstopping Pittsburgh to the Stanley Cup. He started 58 and 34 times on the Penguins' 2016 and 2017 Cup runs splitting time with Matt Murray, then made 46 starts for Vegas and led the expansion Golden Knights to the final.

"As a player, I love being in there. I love playing the game," Fleury said. "It's tough to find like the perfect amount of games. Nowadays, I feel like we're hearing more than ever how we're going to manage two goalies and stuff." Consider it hockey's version of "load management" that's gained popularity in basketball.

Don't expect NHL teams to handpick games throughout the season to rest star players — except top goaltenders who are getting more nights off while their backups share the net with an eye toward playoff success.

Each of the past five Cup-winning goalies started fewer than 60 games in the regular season, along with three of the past five runners up. The days of Martin Brodeur starting 78 games are gone — only three goalies have 70-plus starts over the past five seasons — and teams think year-round about how to best prepare to play deep into June.

TEX MESS

***Brady has frustrating night as
Patriots fall to Texans 28-22***

Houston Texans inside linebacker Benardrick McKinney (55) celebrates after he sacked New England Patriots quarterback Tom Brady (12) during the second half of an NFL football game Sunday, Dec. 1, 2019, in Houston.

Associated Press
Page 19



NET GAINS

Continued from Page 17

"The trend is definitely going the way that you split the net more," said Boston goaltender Tuukka Rask, who carried the Bruins to Game 7 of the final last year after starting 46 times in the regular season. "It's a tough thing because if your starter makes \$8-9 million, you want him to play. But then you want to win the Cup, so you've got to think of it like, well, if this guy plays 70 games, is he going to play 25 in the playoffs at the same level? Versus OK we're playing him 45, 50 really good games and then we got the other guy and the A guy's going to play 25 really good (playoff games)."

Rask and Jaroslav Halak, Washington's Braden Holtby and Philipp Grubauer in 2018 and Pittsburgh's Murray and Fleury the previous two years are prime examples. Jordan Binnington didn't make his first NHL start until January, but 32 games of work made him fresh to help the St. Louis Blues win the Cup last season.

It's a delicate balance of having enough salary cap space to employ two capable goalies with playing time, plotting out the schedule for maximum rest benefits and collecting enough points to make the playoffs.

"It's a collaborative discussion that all teams have," Vegas general manager Kelly McCrimmon said. "What we're doing is trying to win hockey games during the regular season, trying to keep both of our

goalies sharp and trying to have all our players at the top of their game come playoffs."

The New York Islanders have alternated Thomas Greiss and Semyon Varlamov for their first 24 games and allow the fourth-fewest goals in the league. Anaheim's coaching staff pencils in both John Gibson or Ryan Miller for all 82 games and revisits incrementally to adjust for injuries and workloads.

"It has very little to do with games," Ducks coach Dallas Eakins said. "It has more to do with how much work. We had a game earlier this year where we were overwhelmed in the game against Vegas. I think they put up 50 shots, and we were in our zone the whole time. That went down as one game for John, but he really played two, so that's kind of how we look at it." Miller previously preferred to skip a game with a couple days off on each end for a mental break. He sees so many teams splitting back-to-backs and understands it but also thinks battling some old-school fatigue can be good for a goaltender.

"I don't think there's a strict recipe," said Miller, whose career high was 74 starts in 2007-08 with Buffalo. "I think some adversity is good to keep your mentality in the right place. It's not going to be a cake walk and then playoffs hit and it's like (you're) dialed in. You've got to go through some stuff and work through it and battle through the harder situations so that's



In this Wednesday, June 14, 2017, file photo, Pittsburgh Penguins goalies Marc-Andre Fleury, left, and Matt Murray hold the Stanley Cup on stage after riding in the Stanley Cup victory parade in Pittsburgh.

Associated Press

just your mindset every night."

NHL goalies believe modern games are more difficult with higher shot totals than past decades. Teams are averaging 30 shots a game in 2019-20, while the schedule has more back-to-backs.

"Nowadays there's a lot more work for a goalie: a lot less hooking and holding up for the D-men, so there's a lot more chances or a lot more in-zone time that you're actually working," said Philadelphia's Brian Elliott, who's part of a successful tandem with Carter Hart. "Even if you're maybe not getting shots, you're looking through screens, you're doing a lot of work." Vegas coach Gerard Gallant appreciates Fleury wants to play all 82 games,

and he's not alone in wanting to grab the net and not let go.

"I've felt a lot better every year I played a lot more games," said Holtby, who led the league with 73 games played in 2014-15. "It's a little more of a feel game instead of an analytics game just because of the speed of it. ... It's one of those things everyone's probably different. It probably has a lot to do with how you practice and everything."

Some goalies are going to play more than others; Florida's \$10 million man, Sergei Bobrovsky, or Montreal's Carey Price, the highest-paid goalie in the league, could start 60 or more just because his team needs an elite level of play.

"We'd love to have (Price)

in every game, but it's not realistic," Canadiens coach Claude Julien said. "We give him some days off of practices because that's not quite as important as him in games."

The most important thing, of course, is the playoffs. It's tough for starters who want to play all the time and it takes an adjustment, but the proof is in the names on the Stanley Cup that splitting the net works.

"Everybody wants to play," Rask said. "The older you get, I think it becomes a little easier to realize that it's not about me. I'm resting for the team."

And resting with the hope that shouldering less of a load now makes a goalie more likely to raise a trophy over his shoulders at the end of the season. □

Larrazábal birdies last to clinch victory at Alfred Dunhill

MALELANE, South Africa (AP) — Pablo Larrazábal won the European Tour's season-opening Alfred Dunhill Championship on Sunday after losing a three-shot overnight lead and then making three birdies on his last four holes for a dramatic one-stroke victory.

Larrazábal birdied the par-5 No. 18 as the Spaniard finished 8 under overall and

just ahead of Sweden's Joel Sjöholm. Larrazábal said he struggled with blisters on his feet throughout the final round, when he fell three shots behind at one point. He made a litany of errors and closed with a 75 after six bogeys and a double bogey, but his rousing finale still enabled him to clinch a fifth European Tour title and first in four years.

"I woke up this morning and

I didn't think I was going to play," said Larrazábal. "I couldn't put my shoe on, I couldn't walk to the buggy. I really struggled on the back nine. I have a big blister on my right toe and I said to myself 'If Tiger can win a U.S. Open with a broken leg...' and I just fought hard."

The 36-year-old Larrazábal's victory at Leopard Creek Country Club came at the

event where he started his professional career 12 years ago.

Sjöholm's final-round 69 almost saw him through to his first European Tour victory. Charl Schwartzel (70) finished tied for third at 6 under on his return to tournament action for the first time in eight months because of a wrist injury. Branden Grace (73) and Wil Besseling (74) were also in

that tie for third. Besseling led or held a share of the lead through much of the final round but he made bogey on the last after his approach flew too far and landed among some rocks behind the green.

That opened the way for Larrazábal to win it on the last. He laid up with his second and then fired his third shot in close to tap in for birdie and the win. □



Watson throws 3 TDs, catches another; Texans top Pats 28-22

By KRISTIE RIEKEN

AP Sports Writer

HOUSTON (AP) — Deshaun Watson has long admired Tom Brady for his talent and resilience.

He beat him Sunday night by not only throwing touchdown passes, but by catching one, too.

"I told them I'm an athlete ... the more you can do, the longer you play in this league," he said. "So I can do it all."

Watson threw three touchdown passes and had the first TD reception of his career, and the Houston Texans frustrated Brady in a 28-22 victory over the New England Patriots.

Texans coach and former Patriots assistant Bill O'Brien got his first win in six tries against New England coach Bill Belichick. It was Houston's second win over the Patriots and first since Jan. 3, 2010.

Watson had 234 yards passing and threw touchdown passes of 14, 13, and 35 yards as Houston (8-4) built a 21-3 lead against New England's vaunted defense.

"This is pretty big just because it's Brady," Watson said. "I was 0-2 against him and who knows when he's going to hang it up. That's my role model, a guy that's been doing it forever, over 20 years ... so it's pretty awesome to finally get one."

Brady completed two of his three TD passes in the final 4 minutes to pull within six. A Patriots (10-2) player got a hand on Jake Bailey's onside kick attempt with 50 seconds remaining, but the ball bounced out of bounds.

"There's really not a whole lot to say here," Belichick said. "The Texans did a good job tonight, across the board, in every area. They were just better than we were."



Houston Texans quarterback Deshaun Watson (4) is lifted by center Nick Martin (66) as they celebrate a touchdown against the New England Patriots during the first half of an NFL football game Sunday, Dec. 1, 2019, in Houston.

Associated Press

James White had a 12-yard reception for New England's first touchdown late in the third quarter, but Watson grabbed the first reception of his career on a flip from DeAndre Hopkins on a trick play with about 10 minutes left to make it 28-9. Watson took the snap and handed off to Duke Johnson, and he gave the ball to Hopkins on a reverse to the right. Hopkins tossed to Watson on an option near the sideline, and Watson dived into the end zone for a 6-yard score.

The Patriots entered needing a win to be the first AFC team to clinch a playoff spot after Oakland's loss to Kansas City earlier in the day. Instead, they struggled to sustain drives, and Brady often looked upset on a night he was 24 of 47. He threw an interception and was sacked three times, hit on 12 other occasions and was seen yelling at his receivers on the sideline after a drive with sever-

al incompletions in the first half. He finished with 326 yards.

"Execution," Brady said. "Just got to do a better job, and it's tough to get behind and come back. Just put ourselves in a pretty deep hole and you can't do that on the road."

New England dealt with a flu bug this week that swept through the locker room and left two players inactive Sunday.

Brady connected with White again with about four minutes left, but the 2-point conversion failed to leave New England down 28-15. The Patriots attempted an onside kick after that and Houston recovered but couldn't move the ball and had to punt.

Brady threw a 20-yard pass to Julian Edelman that cut the lead to six with 50 seconds left. But the Patriots couldn't recover a second onside kick and Houston ran out the clock.

There were about seven

minutes left in the third quarter when the Patriots went for it on fourth-and-1 and Johnathan Joseph broke up a pass intended for Mohamed Sanu.

On the next drive, Houston had a touchdown reception by Will Fuller called back after a review. It didn't matter much as the Texans got a 35-yard TD on a nearly identical route by Kenny Stills on the next play to push the lead to 21-3.

New England was able to sustain a drive for the first time since its opening possession when White grabbed his 12-yard TD from Brady late in the third. Kai Forbath missed the extra point to leave the Patriots down 21-9. Forbath was signed on Friday to replace Nick Folk, who was released after having an emergency appendectomy.

The Patriots led 3-0 after a field goal on their first drive. The Texans had to punt on their first possession but got the ball back three plays

later when Bradley Roby jumped a route and intercepted Brady. Roby, who also had a sack, returned after missing the last five games with a hamstring injury.

Houston cashed in on the miscue when Watson connected with Johnson on a 14-yard TD pass to make it 7-3 late in the first quarter. It is Watson's fifth game this season with at least three touchdown passes, which is tied for most in the NFL. The Texans padded the lead when they capped a 13-play, 88-yard drive with a 13-yard touchdown reception by Darren Fells.

INJURIES

Patriots: OL Marcus Cannon left in the third quarter with an illness. ... C Ted Karras injured his knee in the third quarter and didn't return.

Texans: RB Taiwan Jones left in the third quarter with a hamstring injury and didn't return.

HOPKINS THE QB

Hopkins had previously attempted two passes in his career — an interception and an incompletion. He was feeling pretty good about himself after his TD toss to Watson and had this to say when asked to rate himself as a QB.

"I would give myself a 10, 11, maybe, because I took a hit just to get it to him," Hopkins said with a smile.

WATSON IN PRIME TIME

Watson has 21 touchdowns and just three interceptions in eight night games in his career.

"He's come up big in important games throughout his life: high school, Clemson, Houston," O'Brien said. "He's a great guy to coach. He's got great poise."

UP NEXT

Patriots: Host Kansas City next Sunday.

Texans: Host Denver next Sunday. □

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Oranjestad- Renaissance Marina Downtown is home to the Driftwood Fishing Charters, the successful fishermen of the established seafood restaurant Driftwood. Herby senior and Herby junior both share a passion and love for fishing. They know what the local waters have to offer and what fresh fish really means. Over 30 years ago, the idea for the fishing charter was born.

Captain Herby would catch the fish to be served at the restaurant the same day. That concept still lives, what is 'hooked' during the day is cooked in the evening at the restaurant.

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Messi, U.S. captain Rapinoe win Ballon d'Or awards

By SAMUEL PETREQUIN

AP Sports Writer

After becoming the first six-time winner of the Ballon d'Or, Lionel Messi said he's far from finished.

"I hope to continue for a long time," Messi said on Monday in Paris from behind a row of the trophies which honor the world's best soccer player.

"I realize that I am very lucky, even if, one day, retirement will come. It will be difficult. But I still have a lot of good years ahead of me. Time goes by very quickly, so I want to enjoy football and my family."

While the 32-year-old Messi won his sixth Ballon d'Or, United States captain Megan Rapinoe won her first. "I can't believe I'm the one winning in this field, it's been an incredible year," Rapinoe said in a recorded video message during the ceremony at the lavish Théâtre du Chatelet.

Messi has received the Ballon d'Or previously in 2009,



Barcelona's soccer player Lionel Messi holds the trophy of the Golden Ball award ceremony in Paris, Monday, Dec. 2, 2019. Messi won the Ballon d'Or for sixth time.

Associated Press

2010, 2011, 2012, and 2015. Liverpool defender Virgil van Dijk was second in the polling this year, followed by Cristiano Ronaldo, who shared the record of five Ballon d'Ors with Messi until Monday. Messi's and Ronaldo's 10-year grip on the award organized by France Football magazine was ended last year by Luka Modric.

But Messi was back on top of his game over the past 12 months. He scored 36 times last season en route to a 10th Spanish Liga title, and was the Champions League top scorer. His goals in the Liga also made him the top scorer in Europe's biggest leagues, earning him the Golden Shoe award.

"A few years ago, I received

my first Ballon d'Or here in Paris," Messi said. "I was 22 years old. It was something unthinkable at the time. Today is my sixth Ballon d'Or. As my wife used to say, you should never stop dreaming but always work to improve and continue to enjoy yourself."

The Argentine has not showed any sign of slowing down since the start of the new European season, marking his 700th game for Barcelona last week with a goal and two assists in beating Borussia Dortmund 3-1. So far this year, Messi has 41 goals in 44 games.

Messi also won his sixth FIFA award in September, edging Van Dijk, who missed the chance to become the first defender to top the France Football poll since Italy's World Cup-winning captain, Fabio Cannavaro, in 2006. Van Dijk clinched the 2019 Champions League crown with the Reds after obliterating Messi's Barcelona in the semifinal.

"It's been an amazing year, I was close but unfortunately there are a couple of players like (Messi). I am very proud," Van Dijk said. He was among seven Liverpool players nominated, beside goalkeeper Alisson Becker, defender Trent Alexander-Arnold, midfielder Georginio Wijnaldum and forwards Mohamed Salah, Sadio Mane and Roberto Firmino.

Rapinoe won the women's Ballon d'Or for leading the United States to World Cup glory in July. She scored six goals in the championship, earning her the Golden Boot as the top scorer and the Golden Ball as the top player. France Football magazine has been awarding the Ballon d'Or since 1956 and created a women's award for the first time last year when Norway's Ada Hegerberg won it. Hegerberg was fourth this time. Lucy Bronze of England was second, and Alex Morgan third. □

Luka Doncic has big 2nd half, Mavericks rout Lakers

By The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Luka Doncic scored 21 of his 27 points in a dynamic second half, Kristaps Porzingis added 15 points and the Dallas Mavericks snapped the Los Angeles Lakers' 10-game winning streak with a 114-100 victory Sunday.

Doncic also had 10 assists and nine rebounds, and Delon Wright had 17 points and nine assists in the Mavericks' seventh victory in eight games.

Dallas underlined its status as a likely title contender with an inspired second half on the road against the NBA-leading Lakers, who had lost only once in 18 games since their season opener. Anthony Davis had 27 points and 10 rebounds for the Lakers, and LeBron James had 25 points, nine rebounds and eight assists. They dropped to 17-3.

The Mavs erased a half-time deficit with a 28-5 run to open the third quarter, shredding the Lakers' usually solid defense.

Dallas' decisive rally was led by a majestic quarter from Doncic, who had 16 points and five assists in the third after going 2 for 9 in the first half.

HEAT 109, NETS 106

NEW YORK (AP) — Jimmy Butler scored 20 points, Bam Adebayo had 17 points and 16 rebounds and Miami scored the final 10 points to beat Brooklyn. Goran Dragic led the Heat with 24 points, starting the closing 10-0 burst with a three-point play.

Miami trailed 106-99 after a 3-pointer by Joe Harris with 1:45 remaining, but pitched a shutout from there and got the victory thanks largely to the aggressiveness of Butler.

He kept attacking the rim and had five free throws in the closing run, overcoming his 5-for-17 shooting from the field.

Spencer Dinwiddie scored 29 points and Harris had a season-high 25 for the Nets. Kyrie Irving missed his ninth



Los Angeles Lakers' LeBron James (23) drives to the basket against the Dallas Mavericks during the first half of an NBA basketball game Sunday, Dec. 1, 2019, in Los Angeles.

straight game because of a right shoulder injury.

RAPTORS 130, JAZZ 110

TORONTO (AP) — Pascal Siakam scored 35 points, Fred VanVleet had 21 points and 11 assists and Toronto used a record-setting first half to rout Utah. Toronto led 77-37 for the biggest halftime lead in franchise history and in the NBA this season. It matched

the eighth-largest halftime lead in league history, and was the Jazz's biggest halftime deficit.

Mike Conley scored 20 points for Utah.

CELTICS 113, KNICKS 104

NEW YORK (AP) — Jayson Tatum scored 30 points, Jaylen Brown added 28 and Boston beat New York. Kemba Walker had 15 points and 10 assists, Enes

Kanter added 11 points and 11 rebounds, and Brad Wanamaker also scored 11 points for Boston.

Julius Randle led the Knicks with 26 points.

THUNDER 107, PELICANS 104

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Chris Paul scored seven of his 16 points in a late 12-0 run in Oklahoma City's victory over New Orleans.

Daniilo Gallinari led the Thunder with 23 points and 11 rebounds, and Steven Adams, Dennis Schroder and Shai Gilgeous-Alexander added 17 points each.

Adams also had 10 rebounds. Jrue Holiday had 26 points for New Orleans.

GRIZZLIES 115, TIMBERWOLVES 107

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Dillon Brooks scored 26 points and Grayson Allen added 13 to push short-handed Memphis past Minnesota. Memphis, which was without star rookie Ja Morant because of back spasms and starting center Jonas Valanciunas because of an illness.

Karl-Anthony Towns had 21 points and 12 rebounds for Minnesota.

PISTONS 132, SPURS 98

DETROIT (AP) — Christian Wood scored a career-high 28 points to help Detroit rout San Antonio. Luke Kennard added 20 points for the Pistons. They had lost eight of 10.

DeMar DeRozan had 20 points for San Antonio. The Spurs have lost 11 of 13.

MAGIC 100, WARRIORS 96

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) — Evan Fournier tied his career high with 32 points and Terrence Ross added 19 points in Orlando's victory over Golden State. Glenn Robinson III led Golden State with 19 points.

CLIPPERS 150, WIZARDS 125

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Kawhi Leonard scored 34 points, Paul George added 31, and Los Angeles rolled past undermanned Washington for its 12th win in a row over the Wizards at home.

Montrezl Harrell added 23 points and 15 rebounds and Lou Williams had 22 points for the Clippers, who improved to a franchise-best 12-1 at Staples Center.

Rookie Rui Hachimura scored a career-high 30 points and Bradley Beal added 23 points and 11 assists for the Wizards.

Davis Bertans had 20 points and a tied his career high with six 3-pointers. □

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Bruins win 7th straight, rally to beat Canadiens 3-1

By GETHIN COOLBAUGH

Associated Press

BOSTON (AP) — David Backes couldn't help but smile after scoring his first goal of the season in his first game in nearly a month. The Bruins' alternate captain picked a big moment against a big-time rival to accomplish the feat.

Backes scored the deciding goal with 9:31 left in the third period, David Pastrnak added his league-leading 25th goal, and Boston won its seventh straight game, beating the Montreal Canadiens 3-1 on Sunday night. "You could see (the emotion) it on my face.

That was elation," Backes said. "I've been watching this team do this for a month, and now it's great to be part of it."

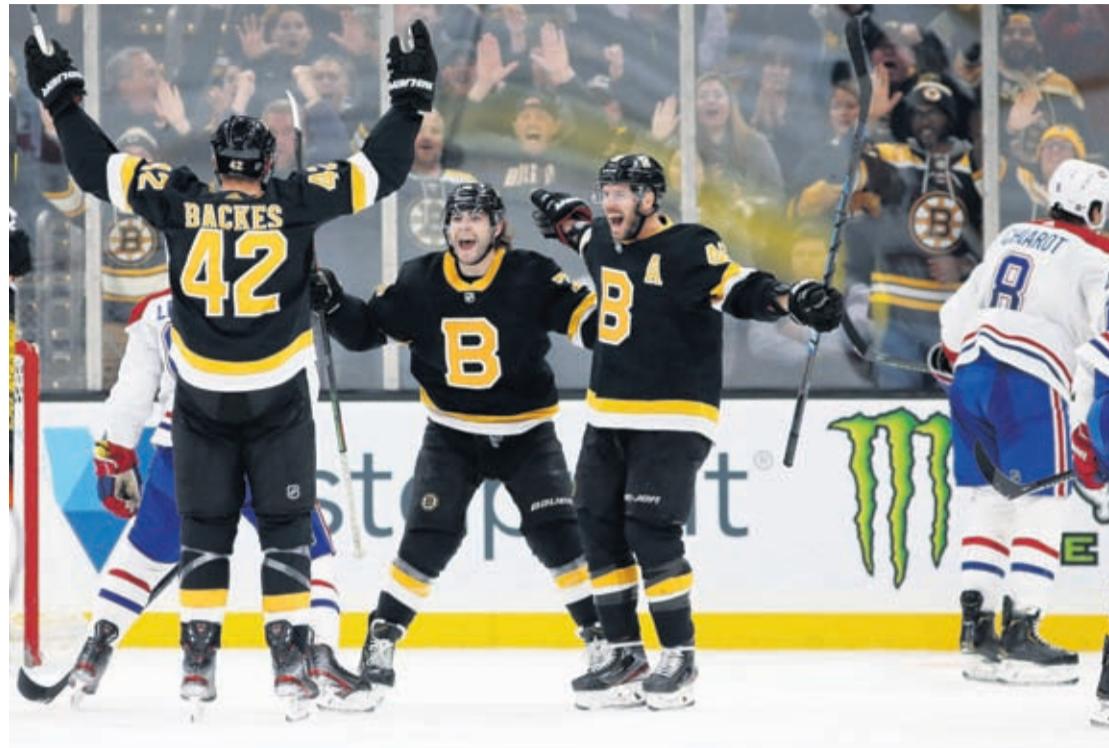
Backes' goal came off a feed from David Krejci through the right circle. Jake DeBrusk added his sixth goal of the year on a give-and-go with Charlie Coyle a couple minutes later and the Canadiens' season-high losing streak reached eight (0-5-3).

Backes was in the lineup for the first time since being injured during a scary collision with Ottawa's Scott Sauron on Nov. 2.

"We didn't know what he'd have, to be honest with you," Bruins coach Bruce Cassidy said. "He hadn't played in a while. I thought he gave us some good energy, had a couple looks, was banging bodies."

Tuukka Rask made 28 saves for the Bruins.

Boston extended its point streak to 11 games (8-0-3) and entered the third



Boston Bruins' David Backes (42) celebrates his goal with David Krejci and Jake DeBrusk as Montreal Canadiens' Ben Chiarot skates away during the third period of an NHL hockey game Sunday, Dec. 1, 2019, in Boston.

Associated Press

month of the season as the only team without a home regulation loss (11-0-4).

Joel Armia scored, and Carey Price had 31 saves for Montreal.

"For 45, 46, 47 minutes, we were playing solid hockey," Montreal and former Bruins coach Claude Julien said. "We needed that win desperately, and now we've got to go back home and find a way to win the next one."

Montreal had allowed 24 goals in four prior games, including a season-worst 8-1 loss to Boston at home Tuesday that featured a hat trick by Pastrnak.

Price gave up five goals on 11 shots in Tuesday's loss to the Bruins and has surrendered 19 total over his last four games.

But the Canadiens' star saw improvement in his team's effort. "If we definitely play like (we did today), the majority of our games are going to be a better result," Price said.

The Canadiens got off to a fast start this time after giving up three first-period goals in Tuesday's matchup. Armia's backhand shot from the right circle deflected off Charlie McAvoy's skate and into the net for his 10th goal of the year 1:58 into the game.

Play was stopped with 2:47 left in the second as a scuffle broke out involving all 10 position players on the ice after Shea Weber interfered with Pastrnak.

Pastrnak evened the score at 6:16 of the third after skating into the right circle

and firing a one-time shot past Price high to the stick side. "Twenty-five (goals) by December 1st, I wouldn't have predicted that," Cassidy said. "I know he's certainly, maybe could have had 30. I don't think he's had a lot of freebies, let's put it that way."

Backes' goal came with nine seconds left on a Bruins' power play after Montreal's Nick Cousins was whistled for holding Boston's Torey Krug.

"It's unfortunate. It was a bad call," Julien said. "Krug's stick was stuck under his own player. As a referee in a 1-1 hockey game, you've got to make sure when you make those calls. I was pissed off at the way that was handled."

The Canadiens beat the

Bruins 5-4 in their first meeting on Nov. 5 in Montreal.

WILD 3, STARS 2, SO.

ST. PAUL, Minn. (AP) — Mikko Koivu scored the shootout winner in his 1,000th career game and reached 700th career points with a second-period assist in Minnesota's win over Dallas. Koivu, playing his 15th season with the Wild, beat Ben Bishop with his trademark move, a backhand over the goalie's left shoulder. Then Alex Stalock, who made 26 saves, stuffed Corey Perry to seal the victory. Kevin Fiala had a goal and an assist and Zach Parise also scored for the Wild. Both also scored in the first three rounds of the shootout, but Joe Pavelski and Tyler Seguin countered for Dallas. Blake Comeau and John Klingberg scored for Dallas and Bishop stopped 27 shots. The Stars have lost three in a row after a 14-1-1 run.

Oilers 3, Canucks 2

VANCOUVER, British Columbia (AP) — Leon Draisaitl scored two power-play goals and Edmonton snapped a two-game losing streak with a win over Vancouver.

Josh Archibald also scored for the Oilers (17-9-3). Connor McDavid and Alex Chiasson each had two assists. Mikko Koskinen stopped 30 shots.

Josh Leivo and Brock Boeser scored the Canucks (13-11-4), who are 3-3-0 in their last six games.

Goaltender Jacob Markstrom, making his first back-to-back start of the season, stopped 26 shots for Vancouver. □



In this Monday, April 8, 2019, file photo, then-Ottawa Senators NHL hockey team interim head coach Marc Crawford speaks to media during a year-end news conference during locker clean-out day in Ottawa, Ontario.

Associated Press

Blackhawks reviewing assistant Marc Crawford's conduct

By JAY COHEN
AP Sports Writer

CHICAGO (AP) — Blackhawks assistant Marc Crawford will be away from the team while it reviews his conduct with another organization.

The Blackhawks didn't provide any details Monday about what they are examining, but former NHL forward Sean Avery recently told the New York Post that Crawford kicked him after he was whistled for a too-many-men-on-the-ice penalty when he played for Crawford with the Los Angeles

Kings during the 2006-07 season. The issue with Crawford comes after Calgary Flames coach Bill Peters resigned Friday following accusations he directed racist slurs at a Nigerian-born player with one of Chicago's minor league teams a decade ago. Akim Aliu said Peters "dropped the N bomb several times towards me in the dressing room in my rookie year because he didn't like my choice of music." It happened during the 2009-10 season while the two were with the Blackhawks' top minor league affiliate in Rockford. □

UFC's toughest 'Cowboy' set for career fight vs. McGregor

By DAN GELSTON
AP Sports Writer

Donald Cerrone posted a booze-fueled photo to hype his anticipated fight against Conor McGregor: A bottle of Cerrone's preferred cheap American-style beer vs. the Irish fighter's own whiskey.

Cerrone has eschewed McGregor's Proper No. Twelve whiskey, but the winningest fighter in UFC history finally takes his shot at the hard liquor's founder in a January fight at least five years in the making. UFC fans have buzzed for years about the potential brouhaha between McGregor, the biggest star in the sport, and the hard-living fighter better known as "Cowboy." Once the fight was announced last week, the prospect of some four-letter-word trash talking between two of the biggest mouths in the sport was dimmed — at least for now — when McGregor went on social media and wished Cerrone's family a happy holiday. McGregor's friendly acknowledgment came with a steely caveat, "See you in 20/20 with bulls-eye vision."

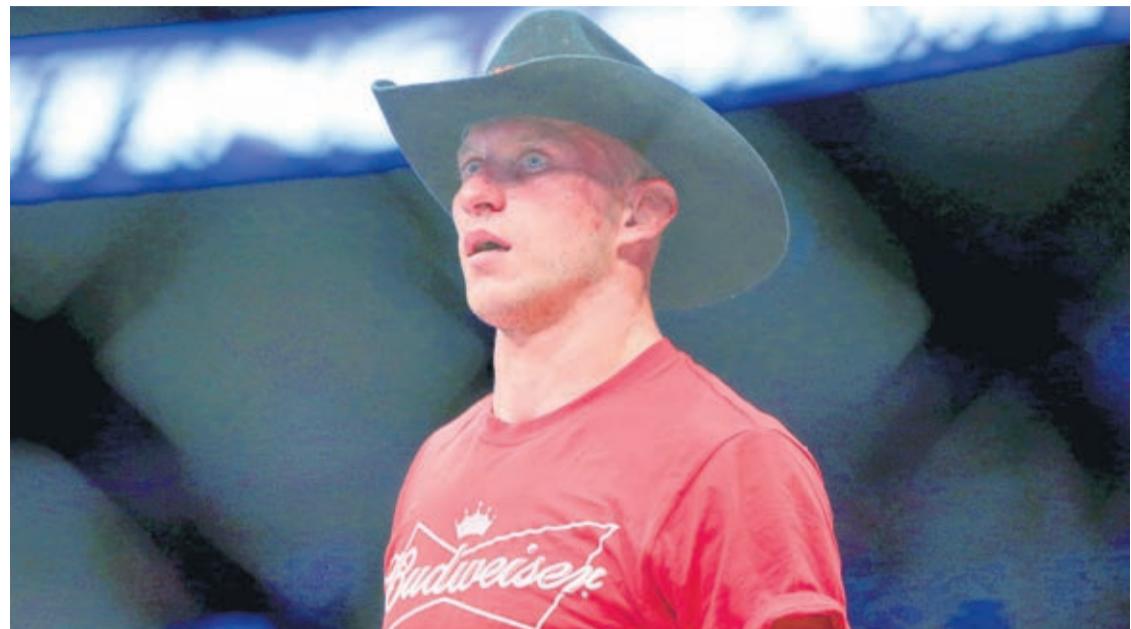
"This is the fight that everyone wants to see," Cerrone said. "I don't even know why we have to have a media tour. This fight is going to sell itself. He's done a great job of promoting himself and becoming Conor McGregor."

The 170-pound bout is set to headline UFC 246 on Jan. 18 at T-Mobile Arena in Las Vegas. McGregor will fight inside the octagon for

only the second time in 38 months and the first time since he was choked out by Khabib Nurmagomedov in October 2018. Cerrone will continue to add to his legacy as MMA's busiest fighter — he fought four times in 2019 (2-2) and holds the UFC career record for wins (23) and most finishes (16) in company history.

Cerrone doesn't necessarily believe his grind-it-out schedule holds an advantage over McGregor's elongated rest period. "I don't know if I believe in all that ring rust stuff," Cerrone said. "I don't know if that's an actual thing. He's very talented, won two world titles, went in there with Floyd Mayweather. I don't think a year or a couple of years off is going to matter. Who the (heck) knows? I'm coming in full guns a blazing, man. My camp's excited about this fight."

His cowboy hat always on, Cerrone has grown into one of the more popular fighters in UFC with his fight anyone, any time style and who always seems up for a good time. The 36-year-old Cerrone (a +190 underdog) has done it all, except win a UFC championship. His method of cramming as many fights as he can into the shortest window has perhaps at times prevented the patience necessary needed to wait for a major title shot. Cerrone's losses this year were to Tony Ferguson (on a 12-fight winning streak and set to fight Nurmagomedov) and Justin Gaethje (three straight



In this Jan. 18, 2015 photo Donald 'Cowboy' Cerrone is seen after a fight at UFC Fight Night in Boston.

Associated Press

wins and a regular fight of the night winner).

"I'm like my own worst enemy, for sure," Cerrone said. "My coaches say all the time, don't take that fight. I definitely could have had better opportunities if I was sitting and waiting. But I love it. I love chasing this crazy feeling."

He waited out McGregor for what is expected to be the richest payday of his career. The seeds were planted when Cerrone first called out McGregor when they shared the UFC Fight Night card in January 2015. They shared a dais in 2015 to promote upcoming UFC cards and promptly took aim at each other. Cerrone continued through the years to pressure McGregor to kickstart his comeback and fight him.

"This fight was going to happen three or four times,"

Cerrone said. "Everyone would get their hopes up and then it wouldn't go through. It was like, yeah, right, it's not going to happen. Then the contract came sliding across, and I was like, oh (wow), here it is."

Cerrone is ready for a "fun as hell" fight night in a matchup that might have been more enticing two or three years ago. The fight has already seemingly become more about how McGregor will look in his return than what a win would mean for Cerrone's career. But while McGregor has been caught up in a string of legal woes during his time off, Cerrone has remained in about an endless cycle of training.

"My wrestling is far superior," Cerrone said Monday by phone on his way to a swim workout outside his

training camp home of Albuquerque, New Mexico. "My pace, my cardio, I plan on really putting on the pressure." Cerrone signed a new multi-fight deal as part of the McGregor bout and has no plans to slow down, no matter the outcome. He's dabbled in acting and says he wants to put his UFC records far out of reach for the next generation of stars. He trains at the BMF Ranch, part of another nickname that's made him one of the more respected fighters inside the cage.

Up next, the fight of a lifetime.

"What I want to do is get all of America to back me like Ireland does him," Cerrone said, laughing. "That's what I want. If there's a guy for America to stand behind, it's the blue-collar, beer-drinking Cowboy. I think I'm the man." □

Manfred meets with Bernie Sanders over minor league proposal



Baseball commissioner Rob Manfred speaks to the media at the owners meeting in Arlington, Texas, Thursday, Nov. 21, 2019.

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Democratic presidential candidate Bernie Sanders met Monday with baseball Commissioner Rob Manfred to discuss MLB's proposal to that would drop 42 minor league teams from their leagues after the 2020 season. MLB is negotiating a new agreement with the National Association of Professional Baseball Leagues, the governing body of the minors. The initial proposal

primarily would impact lower-level teams in short-season leagues. Sanders, a senator from Vermont, sent Manfred a letter on Nov. 25 calling the plan "a disaster for baseball fans, workers and communities throughout the country." MLB issued a statement Monday saying it "understands that we have an obligation to local communities to ensure that public money spent on minor league stadiums is

done so prudently and for the benefit of all citizens. "MLB also must ensure that minor league players have safe playing facilities suitable for the development of professional baseball players, are not subjected to unreasonable travel demands, are provided with compensation and working conditions appropriate for elite athletes, and have an opportunity of making it to the major leagues." □

For banks, data on your spending habits could be a gold mine

By ANICK JESDANUN

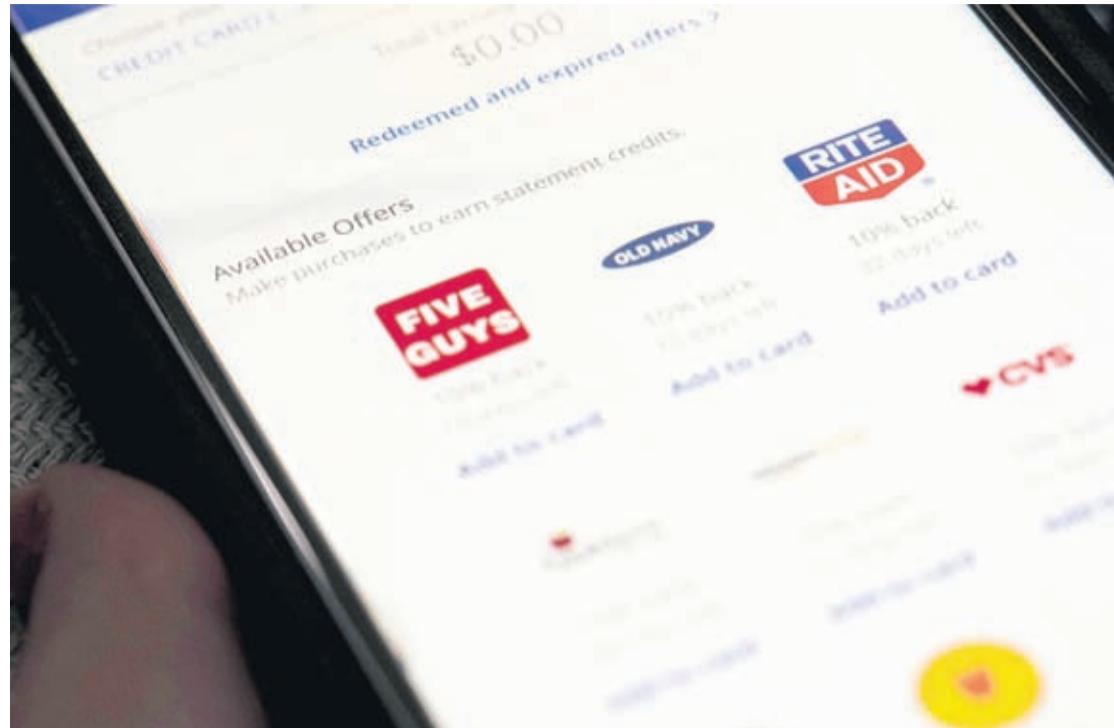
AP Technology Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — There's a powerful new player watching what you buy so it can tailor product offerings for you: the bank behind your credit or debit card. For years, Google and Facebook have been showing ads based on your online behavior. Retailers from Amazon to Walgreens also regularly suction up your transaction history to steer future spending and hold your loyalty.

Now banks, too, want to turn data they already have on your spending habits into extra revenue by identifying likely customers for retailers. Banks are increasingly aware that they could be sitting on a gold mine of information that can be used to predict — or sway — where you spend. Historically, such data has been used mostly for fraud protection.

Suppose you were to treat yourself to lunch on Cyber Monday, the busiest online shopping day of the year. If you order ahead at Chipotle — paying, of course, with your credit card — you might soon find your bank dangling 10% off lunch at Little Caesars. The bank would earn fees from the pizza joint, both for showing the offer and processing the payment.

Wells Fargo began customizing retail offers for individual customers on Nov. 21, joining Chase, Bank of America, PNC, SunTrust and



This Sunday, Dec. 1, 2019, photo shows rewards offered through Chase bank on an iPhone in the Brooklyn borough of New York.

Associated Press

a slew of smaller banks. Unlike Google or Facebook, which try to infer what you're interested in buying based on your searches, web visits or likes, "banks have the secret weapon in that they actually know what we spend money on," said Silvio Tavares of the trade group CardLinx Association, whose members help broker purchase-related offers. "It's a better predictor of what we're going to spend on."

While banks say they're moving cautiously and being mindful of privacy concerns, it's not clear that consumers are fully aware of what their banks are up to. Banks know many of our deepest, darkest secrets —

that series of bills paid at a cancer clinic, for instance, or that big strip-club tab that you thought stayed in Vegas. A bank might suspect someone's adulterous affair long before the betrayed partner would. "Ten years ago, your bank was like your psychiatrist or your minister — your bank kept secrets," said Ed Mierzwinski, a consumer advocate at the U.S. Public Interest Research Group. Now, he says, "they think they are the same as a department store or an online merchant."

The startup Cardlytics, one of the field's pioneers, runs the offer programs for Wells Fargo, Chase and other banks. Though these part-

nerships, Cardlytics says it gets insights on about \$2.8 trillion worth of annual consumer spending worldwide. A Cardlytics rival named Augeo runs a similar program with other banks, which it declined to name. American Express has an in-house program for its cardholders. Visa targets offers on Uber's app for credits toward rides and food delivery. Even though banks only know where you've shopped — and not specifically what you bought — they're often able to make educated guesses. After all, it's not likely you're at a liquor store for the potato chips. The bank can then infer other things you may like. It would have a pret-

ty good idea that you're about to travel if you've charged a flight or hotel stays. HSBC is looking into using that data to set up automatic alerts, so that it wouldn't decline your card use as fraudulent when you start charging for meals in Kathmandu or Karachi.

The next step is to make location-specific offers, perhaps for a car rental, as soon as you land. Marcos Meneguzzi, HSBC's U.S. head of cards and unsecured lending, said cardholders will welcome such offers, at least when they're relevant. But he warns that banks could easily overstep and lose their customers' trust. Many of these efforts remain in their infancy, and it's not yet clear how well they'll catch on. The Cardlytics programs, for instance, don't push offers through notifications. You have to look for them in your banking app or website. Abeer Bhatia, an executive with Chase's credit-card business, said commissions barely cover operational costs. To Chase, the program is more important for incentivizing rewards-conscious consumers to use its cards. If a Chase card gets you an extra 10% at Rite Aid, why pull out your Citi card?

As far as these companies are concerned, Americans have repeatedly demonstrated that they value freebies and discounts more than intangible privacy concerns. □



In this Wednesday, March 21, 2018 file photo, the Facebook logo is seen on a smartphone in Iksan, South Korea.

Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — Face-

book started testing a tool on Monday that lets users move their images more

Facebook tests tool to move photos to Google, other rivals

easily to other online services, as it faces pressure from regulators to loosen its grip on data.

The social network's new tool will allow people to transfer their photos and videos directly to competing platforms, starting with Google Photos.

The tool will then be rolled out worldwide in the first half of 2020.

U.S. and European regulators have been examining Facebook's control of per-

sonal data such as images as they look into whether the tech giant's dominance is stifling competition and limiting choice for consumers. Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg has reacted by calling for new rules to address "data portability" and other issues.

Facebook said that as it worked on a new set of data portability tools, it had discussions with policymakers, regulators, and academics in the U.K., Germany, Brazil and Singapore to learn about which data should be portable and how to protect privacy.

The company is developing products that "take into account the feedback we've received and will help drive data portability policies forward by giving people and experts a tool to assess," Steve Satterfield, director of privacy and public policy, said in a blog post. □



In this June 18, 2015, file photo, an Airbus A380 takes off for its demonstration flight at the Paris Air Show in Le Bourget airport, north of Paris.

Associated Press

WTO panel: EU fails to end illegal subsidies for Airbus

By JAMEY KEATEN
Associated Press

GENEVA (AP) — A World Trade Organization panel ruled Monday that the European Union has not complied with an order to end illegal subsidies for plane-maker Airbus, which prompted the Trump administration to impose tariffs on nearly \$7.5 billion worth of EU goods in October. In its ruling, a WTO compliance panel found that the EU had not taken sufficient steps to end harm to Boeing, the major rival to Europe's Airbus.

The EU is expected to appeal, though the United States is on the cusp of preventing the WTO's appeals court — the Appellate Body — from ruling on any new appeals.

U.S. Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer on Monday welcomed the WTO ruling. "Strong action is needed to convince the EU that its interests lie in eliminating these market-distorting subsidies now and in the future, so that our industries can compete on a level playing field," Lighthizer said in a statement.

Responding to Monday's ruling, the EU's executive commission faulted the panel for making a "number of serious legal errors in its assessment of EU com-

pliance," and said its recommended ways of compliance would be "very problematic for a larger part of the WTO membership."

"The European Commission will decide on its course of action in light of this assessment, including the possibility of bringing an appeal in order to have these legal errors corrected," it said in a statement.

The commission also alluded to a decision expected next year by a WTO arbitrator in a case of illegal U.S. government support for Chicago-based Boeing, which could give the EU authorization to slap tariffs on U.S. goods.

The Airbus case centers on so-called launch aid from the EU that WTO judges ruled had impeded sales for aircraft from Boeing in the twin-aisle and very large aircraft markets.

In May last year, the Appellate Body agreed that the EU and four of its member states — Britain, France, Germany and Spain — had failed to abide by an earlier compliance panel ruling.

The EU insisted in subsequent arguments that the subsidies had been lifted, and that proper steps were taken to remove the subsidies' harmful impact on Boeing.

The panel found that the EU had failed to show that it had succeeded in withdrawing French, German, Spanish and British subsidies for the A380 superjumbo, or German and British subsidies for the A350XWB widebody jet.

A final resolution could be made more difficult because the WTO's appellate body, which has final say in trade dispute cases, is set to become unable to hear new cases starting next week.

Under WTO rules, the Appellate Body must have at least three members, and the terms of two of its three members are set to expire Dec. 11.

The United States has singlehandedly blocked any new appointments, alleging that the body's members have overstepped WTO rules and draw excessive salaries and perks, among other things.

In a statement, Airbus called on the United States to "immediately reduce" the \$7.5 billion in tariffs "by around \$2 billion," arguing that it was directly linked to finding that loans for the development of Airbus' A380 superjumbo "no longer have an impact on Boeing sales and that therefore the value of the lost sales no longer exists." □



In this Nov. 26, 2019, photo a UPS man delivers a package to a residence in North Andover, Mass.

Associated Press

Still on top: Cyber Monday sales on track to hit record

By JOSEPH PISANI
AP Retail Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Cyber Monday is still holding up as the biggest online shopping day of the year, even though many of the same deals have been available online for weeks and the name harks back to the days of dial-up modems. Shoppers are expected to spend a record \$9.4 billion on purchases made on their phones and computers Monday, up about 19% from last year's Cyber Monday, according to Adobe Analytics, which tracks transactions at 80 of the top 100 U.S. online stores. The busiest time is expected to be in the hour before midnight, as people race to take advantage of discounts before they disappear. Cyber Monday was created by retailers in 2005 to get people to shop online at a time when high-speed internet was rare and the iPhone didn't exist. The idea was to encourage people to shop at work, where faster connections made it easier to browse, when they returned from the Thanksgiving break.

"It's somewhat antiquated," said Rob Graf, vice president of strategy and insights at cloud computing company Salesforce, which tracks shopping behavior of the online stores that use its platform. "But retailers are still using it as a big milestone and driving

heavy discounts." At least one brand played up Cyber Monday's origins: Bonobos, the men's clothing seller owned by Walmart Inc., photographed models posing with clunky computers and black-and-white TVs for its site.

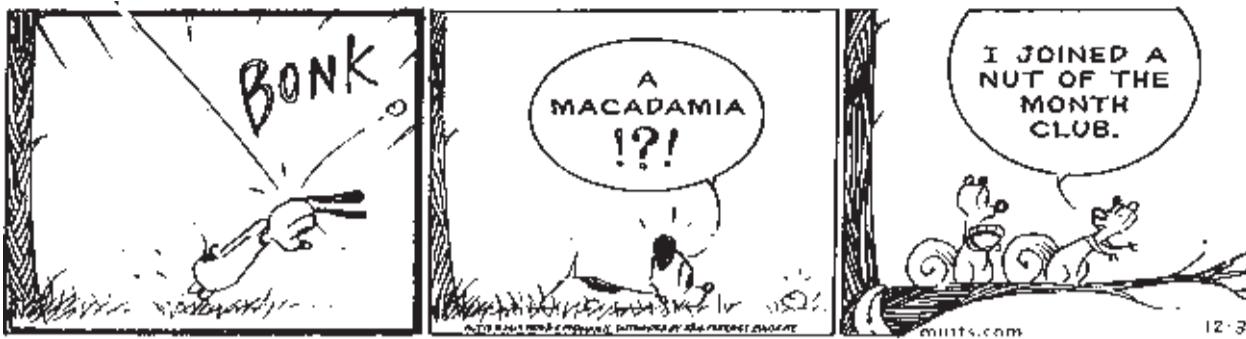
"Boot up the dial-up," one of its Cyber Monday ads said. On average, retailers offered 30% off on Monday, the steepest discounts of the year, according to Salesforce.

Some have been offering deals for days. Amazon started offering Cyber Monday deals on Saturday, calling the three-day extravaganza "Cyber Monday Weekend."

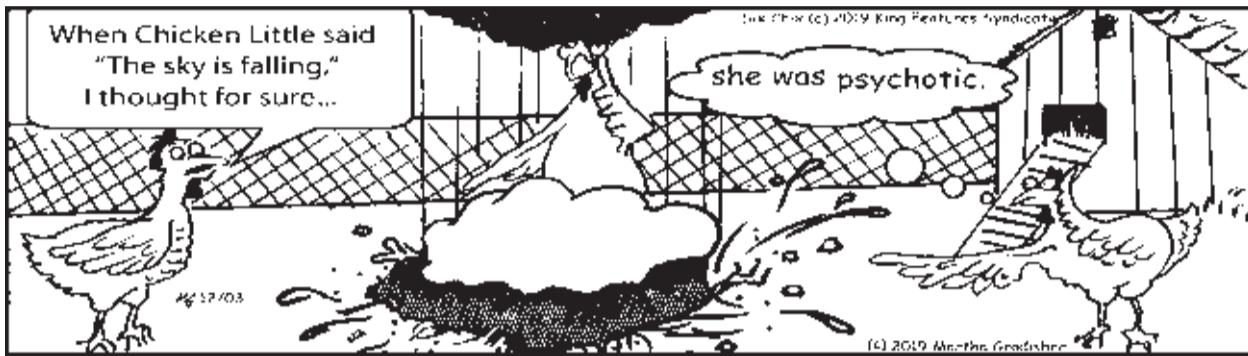
Walmart kicked off online discounts for the holidays a week before Halloween. It was a way to combat the shortened holiday shopping season. Thanksgiving is always celebrated on the fourth Thursday of November. This year, that was Nov. 28, cutting the typical time between Thanksgiving and Christmas by nearly a week, making it the shortest stretch between the two holidays since 2013.

Adobe said the bestselling toys on Cyber Monday were those related to the "Frozen 2" movie, "Paw Patrol" show and the LOL Surprise brand. TVs from Samsung and laptops by Apple were also hot sellers. And Amazon's devices, such as its voice activated Echo, did well, too. □

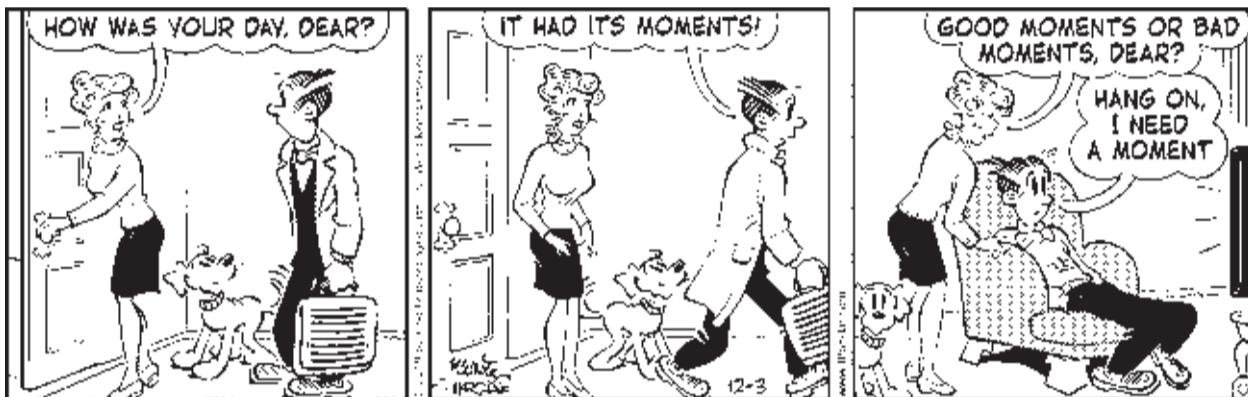
Mutts



6 Chix



Blondie



Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

6	8	3			4										
			1		5	8			5		6				
6	7			2											
8	6		1		3										
	5			9	4										
7		4		8											
3		1				7	5		3						
6															

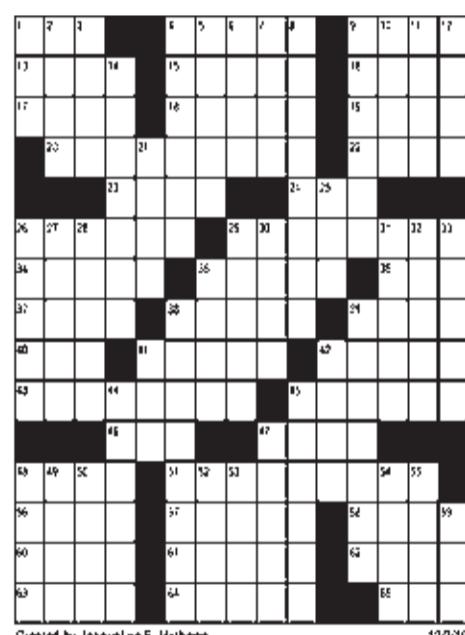
Difficulty Level ★★

Conceptis Puzzles © 2019 Conceptis Inc.

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

1	8	5	7	4	6	3	2	9							
3	7	9	5	2	1	4	8	6							
6	4	2	8	9	3	1	7	5							
8	1	3	9	7	5	6	4	2							
9	5	4	6	8	2	7	1	3							
7	2	6	3	1	4	5	9	8							
4	6	1	2	5	9	8	3	7							
2	3	7	1	6	8	9	5	4							
5	9	8	4	3	7	2	6	1							

Yesterday's puzzle answer



ACROSS

- 1 Sammy Davis & Ed Begleyabor
- 4 What dieters step on
- 8 Strong desire
- 13 Volatile deej
- 15 Yalicious curving
- 16 Tug
- 171 really vegetable
- 18 Egg's accompaniment
- 19 Package of paper
- 20 Retiree
- 22 At 11:11 disagreement
- 23 White meat
- 24 As cute as button
- 26 Conflict
- 29 Supply money for
- 34 Set aif
- 35 Thanks Pierre
- 35 Boston cream
- 37 Right to bear
- 2nd Amendment subcl
- 38 Craft class adhesive
- 39 Crumbly cheese
- 40 Actor & "Imma" Reiner
- 41 Judge's orders
- 42 Did an electricians job
- 43 Deposits
- 45 Instruments in the Ut family
- 46 Shoot carefully
- 47 You take it with you
- 48 Took a at attempted
- 51 About to happen
- 56 Bedspring
- 57 Cool'dish
- 58 Roger De 'The Deer Hunter'
- 60 Up to the task
- 61 Cheeven
- 62 Cambell's of country music
- 63 Cozy home
- 64 Stuffed
- 65 Female anima
- 25 boots
- 26 Footwear for kity
- 27 Fortune-tellers deck
- 28 Cuban ballroom dance
- 29 Oulperkins
- 30 Garfield's namesakes
- 31 La Scala
- 32 Production
- 33 NYC airport
- 34 Harvest crops
- 35 Gudes others
- 36 Downtown street name
- 37 Give one's word
- 38 Appropriate
- 39 Nintendo game
- 40 Consoles
- 41 Gae
- 42 Capo
- 43 Wade wood
- 44 Snooty
- 45 Discontinue
- 46 V.F. or CT

Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews 12/2/19

Monday's Puzzle Solved

Y	U	L	I	N	E	T	E	G	G						
N	O	N	O	M	O	G	A	N	O	H					
A	R	M	S	P	R	O	M	U	L	G					
B	E	R	A	M	P	S	O	I	L	O					
R	A	I	L	S	R	A	I	L	S	R					
A	C	U	S	E	D	E	T	E	S	T					
W	H	I	N	E	S	A	R	A	H	P					
R	A	F	E	D	P	E	D	E	F	E					
Y	U	F	E	A	S	T	N	I	C	H					
S	L	A	L	O	M	C	A	N	T	E					
D	E	N	C	H	I	N	A	N	I	N					
S	C	A	L	E	F	R	A	Y							
A	D	I	T	O	R	U	M	F							
C	R	A	B	F	A	B	L	E							
Y	U	F	E	A	S	T	N	I	C	H					
S	L	A	L	O	M	C	A	N	I	N					
D	E	N	C	H	I	N	A	N	I	N					
S	C	A	L	E	F	R	A	Y							
A	D	I	T	O	R	U	M	F							
C	R	A	B	F	A	B	L	E							

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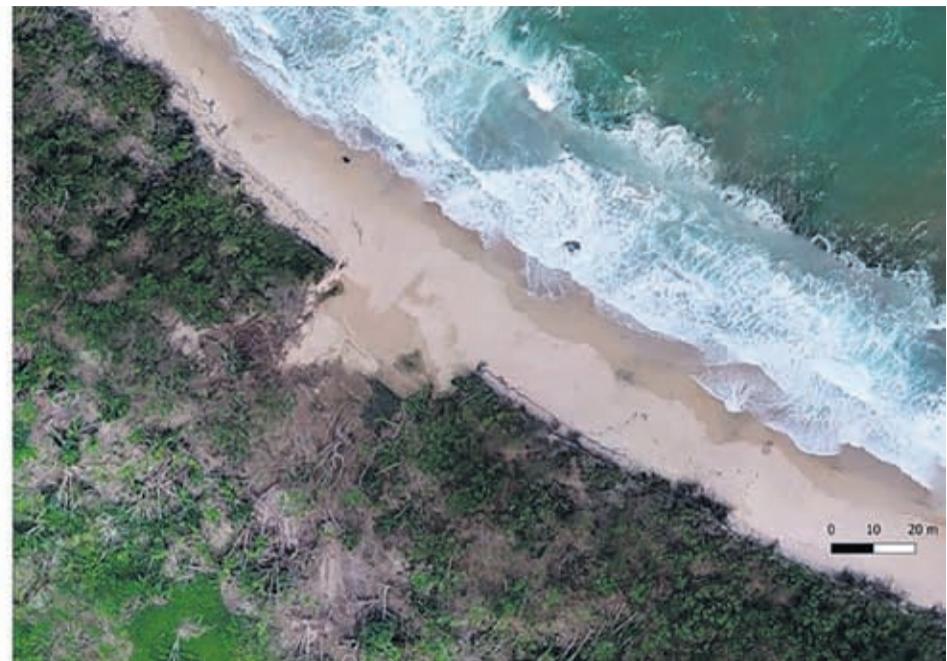
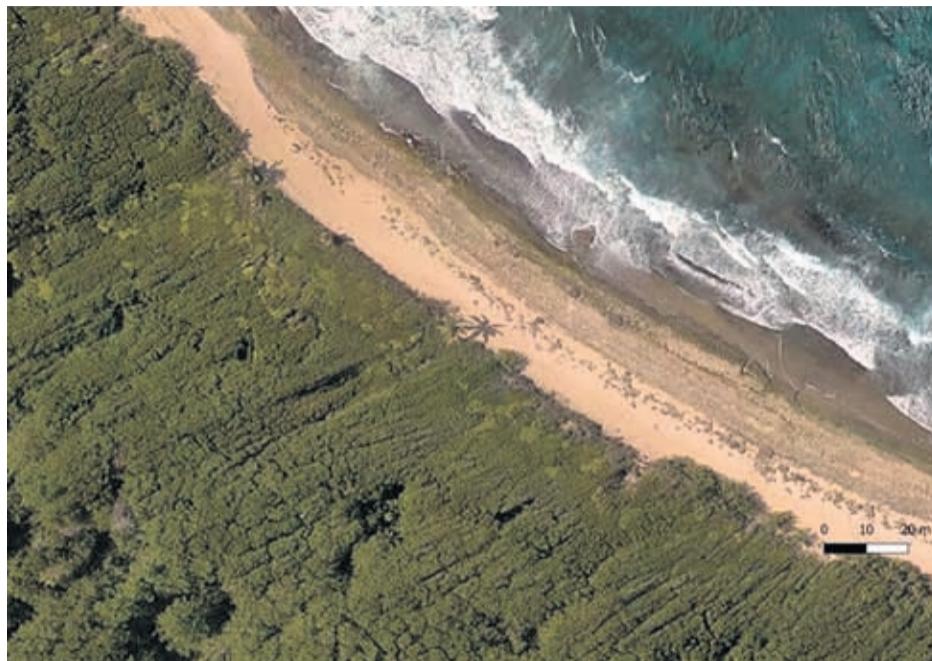
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Scientists race to document Puerto Rico's coastal heritage



In this photo combo provided by Eric Lo, shows the shoreline in Manati, on Aug. 2017, left, before hurricane Maria and on Nov. 2017, after the Hurricane Maria, in Puerto Rico.

Associated Press

By DÁNICA COTO

Associated Press

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP)

— A group of U.S.-based scientists is rushing to document indigenous sites along Puerto Rico's coast dating back a couple of thousand years before rising sea levels linked to climate change destroy a large chunk of the island's heritage that is still being discovered.

Scientists hope to use the 3D images they've taken so far to also help identify which historic sites are most vulnerable to hurricanes, erosion and other dangers before it's too late to save the island's patrimony.

"It's literally being washed away," said Falko Kuester, director of the Cultural Heritage Engineering Initiative at the University of California, San Diego, which is involved in the project. "A big part of what we're working on is to make the invisible visible and make sure it stays in our memory." Also involved in the project are UCSD's Scripps Institution of Oceanography and Para la Naturaleza, a non-

profit environmental group based in Puerto Rico.

The first site scientists targeted was a large swath along the U.S. territory's north coast that includes a ceremonial center used by the Taino Indians roughly 2,000 years ago, said Isabel Rivera Collazo, an environmental archaeologist at UCSD who is overseeing the project that began in August 2017.

Scientists discovered what appears to be a large settlement just east of the ceremonial site thanks to drones and technology including 3D images, she said. They were also able to determine the shape of the ceremonial site, she added.

Armed with that information, scientists used excavations to determine that one of six plazas previously discovered appears to have been used for ceremonial dances and the veneration of ancestors.

"The inside of the plaza was intensively trampled," Rivera said.

The Tainos populated various Caribbean islands but

were eventually wiped out after the arrival of Christopher Columbus and European settlers.

"Up to today, there is still a lot we don't know about indigenous culture along our coasts," Rivera said. "It's not in our history books."

"The entire coast is blanketed with archaeological sites," she said. "We want to recover that information before it disappears."

Puerto Rico's Department of Natural Resources has said the sea level around the island is rising by more than 3 millimeters — a little over a tenth of an inch — per year. But climate change has more immediately dramatic effects as well, destroying habitats, eroding coastlines and causing more powerful storm surges

when hurricanes hit. Some scientists say that warmer temperatures increase the frequency and intensity of storms. Puerto Rico is exposed to storms every year for six months during the Atlantic hurricane season, and the scientists noted that the storm surge from Hurricane Maria washed away part of the region they're studying.

"It's literally in the eye of the storm quite regularly," Kuester said of the island.

Eric Lo, an engineer with the UCSD's cultural heritage initiative, flew to Puerto Rico in August 2017 to launch the project a month before Maria hit the island as a Category 4 hurricane. Lo was surprised at what he saw upon his return to the U.S. territory months later.

"Pieces of land where I had stood and flown the drone didn't exist anymore," he said. "They were underwater." Scientists are now trying to determine the extent of coastal erosion in that region and the hurricane's impact on the archaeological site they are studying.

Three-dimensional models based on drone images are being used to measure distances, areas, volumes and explore fine details: "You start asking these details that historically you couldn't," Kuester said. The engineering initiative that he oversees has helped explore other historic sites elsewhere, including an underwater cave with prehistoric fossils and a baptistery in Florence, Italy. □

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NBC, union investigate 'America's Got Talent' racism report

By ANDREW DALTON

AP Entertainment Writer
LOS ANGELES (AP) — NBC and the guild that represents television performers said they are investigating Gabrielle Union's allegation that she was fired as a judge on "America's Got Talent" because she complained of racism and other on-set issues.

The Screen Actors-Guild American Federation of Television and Radio Artists issued a statement Monday saying it is looking into the allegations.

"We take issues of workplace health and safety very seriously." The Screen Actors Guild-American Federation of Television said in a statement. "We immediately reached out to Ms. Union's representatives when these reports came to light ... While we have taken steps to investigate this matter, we have nothing to report now."

The statement said such investigations and their results are usually kept confidential, unless the union member making the report wants it made public.

According to reports, Union, who is black, sought action to address an environment she said allowed racist jokes, comments



This image released by NBC shows celebrity judges, from left, Howie Mandel, Gabrielle Union, Julianne Hough, Simon Cowell on the set of "America's Got Talent," in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

and notes from producers along with other troubling behavior, including judge-producer Simon Cowell's smoking indoors.

NBC, production company Fremantle and Cowell's company Syco issued their own statement Sunday.

"We remain committed to ensuring a respectful workplace for all employees and take very seriously any questions about workplace culture," the statement

said. "We are working with Ms. Union through her representatives to hear more about her concerns, following which we will take whatever next steps may be appropriate."

In a previous statement, the three companies said "America's Got Talent" has a strong record of inclusivity, and judge turnover is common.

On her Twitter account Monday, Union, without

specifying who she was addressing, retweeted instructions on how to give a proper apology, which included sincerely admitting wrongdoing, correcting the mistake loudly, and laying out steps to correct future behavior.

She added the comment, "This! This! AND THIISSSSSS!!!!"

She had previously thanked fans, friends and family for their support on her social

media accounts, in similarly vague terms.

Her reported firing became a cause for celebrities on Twitter, including Union's husband, former NBA player Dwyane Wade.

Before landing the job on the talent showcase, Union was best known as an actress from films including "Bring It On" and "Bad Boys II."

Union and another judge, Julianne Hough, were dropped from the show on Nov. 22 after one year, Variety reported.

The judging panel has changed since the show's 2006 debut, but most judges' tenures have lasted at least several years, including that of Sharon Osbourne, Mel B and Howard Stern.

On his SiriusXM radio show Monday, Stern, who left the show after four seasons in 2015, slammed Cowell, saying he "sets it up that the men stay, no matter how ugly they are, no matter how old they are, no matter how fat they are, no matter how talentless they are."

Stern said it is "obvious" that the show consistently replaces female judges with younger and more attractive women. □

Review: All-star Mose Allison tribute hits the right spots

By PABLO GORONDI
Associated Press

Various artists, "If You're Going to the City: A Tribute to Mose Allison" (Fat Possum)
It may be a tired cliche to say someone was one of a kind, but Mose Allison most definitely was.

A jazz and blues pianist whose songwriting career meshed lyrics with Mad magazine wit, keen philosophical observations and pure melodies that he sang in a cool conversational voice, Allison, who died three years ago at age 89, was an inspiration to everyone from Pete Townshend to Van Morrison.

In an album benefiting the Sweet Relief Musicians Fund, a true collection of greats — from Fiona Apple

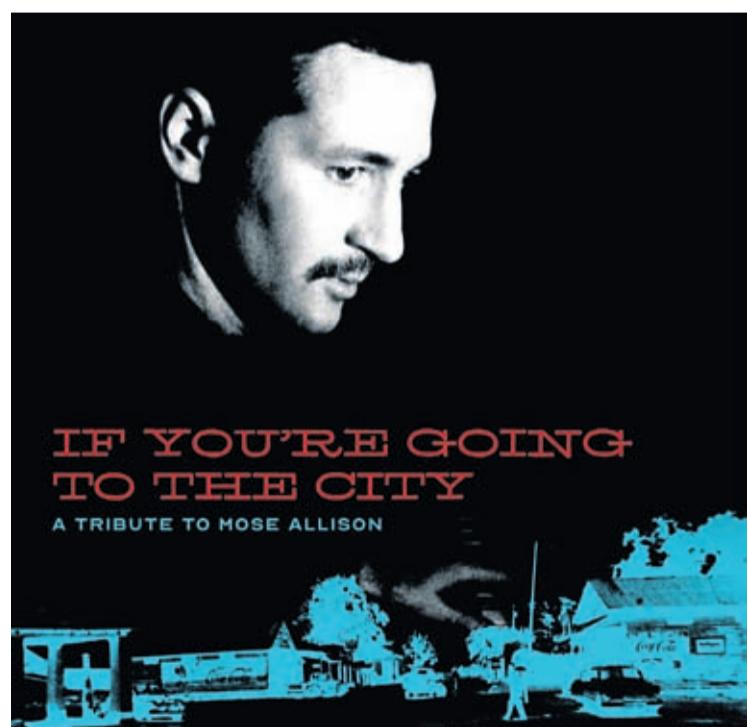
and Bonnie Raitt to Taj Mahal and Iggy Pop — put their own artistry at the service of 15 outstanding Allison tracks from across his extensive career.

It's their diversity and personalized takes on the songs that makes this album so enjoyable. There's been many versions of Allison's songs over the years and several here are absolutely marvelous.

They include Loudon Wainwright's guitar-and-voice take on "Ever Since the World Ended," with its upbeat descriptions of post-apocalyptic life, Dave and Phil Alvin's fierce version of "Wild Man on the Loose," Ben Harper and Charlie Musselwhite's fiery "Nightclub" and Iggy Pop's

late period Miles Davis-like adaption of the title track. With Apple backed by, among others, Benmont Tench and Fred Tackett, the all-too-brief "Your Molecular Structure" applies scientific terms to explain the whys and hows of physical attraction but ends in most primal fashion — "Your molecular structure baby, ooh wee!"

Other highlights are live versions by Raitt of "Everybody's Crying Mercy" and Richard Thompson of "Parchman Farm." Robbie Fulks puts a folksy spin with banjo and fiddle on "My Brain" and daughter Amy Allison and Elvis Costello close the album in fine fashion on the sophisticated "Monsters of the Id."



This cover image released by Fat Possum shows "If You're Going to the City: A Tribute to Mose Allison" performed by various artists.

Associated Press

The album comes with a bonus DVD of a 2005 documentary about Allison by Paul Bernay, "Ever Since I Stole the Blues," that shows in what high regard far more famous musicians held him. □

Learn the secrets to a perfect dinner party from Questlove

By MARK KENNEDY
AP Entertainment Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — If you're lucky enough to be invited to a dinner party hosted by Questlove, be aware that nothing has been left to chance.

The guest list has been carefully chosen, as have all the dishes. The music starts off with piano-heavy tunes and then builds as the evening goes on. The amount and quality of

the booze is also carefully staged. "I think now I have it down to a science. You have to start off mellow and go to your climax," said Questlove. "Usually my parties start at 7 o'clock. By 10 o'clock, it's at its height. And then when it's filtering out around 12:30, then usually the 10 of us left go out to get pizzas and burgers." If you're one of the stragglers, there's a good chance you'll be hanging

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This combination photo shows the cookbook "Mixtape Potluck," left, and a portrait of musician-author Questlove in New York. Associated Press

with a celebrity. Questlove attracts an eclectic fanbase, from musicians like Q-Tip and David Byrne, to foodies like Padma Lakshmi and Eric Ripert, to actresses like Gabrielle Union and Zooey Deschanel, and artists like Tom Sachs and Dustin Yellin.

Now the drummer of the hip-hop group The Roots, as well as a DJ, a producer, author and radio host is revealing some of his secrets in his new book, "Mixtape Potluck." It includes crowd-pleasing recipes from more than 50 friends and advice on how to organize the music, food and guests.

"For me, the whole goal of 'Mixtape Potluck' is to serve as a guide to have better social functions. Oftentimes, I meet artists that are islands on their own and I tell them all the time, 'Find your flock, gather your flock,'" he said. "We live in such a singular society now that really doesn't encourage the idea of collaborating or even social gatherings anymore."

"For me, the result is when people the next day say, 'Hey, I exchanged numbers with this particular artist or this particular singer, this particular writer or this particular architect, and now we're going to work and collaborate together,'" he said.

Included in the book is Marisa Tomei's grandmother's recipe for charred red peppers, Carla Hall's pimento cheese dip, Jessica Biel's blueberry cake and Carol Lim's Korean fried chicken. A mac and

cheese from Q-Tip contains no less than five cheeses. "In most black households, if it's less than five cheeses, it's not legit," Questlove jokes.

Questlove, born Ahmir Thompson, said the seed of the book sprouted more than 20 years ago when The Roots were trying to lure musicians to collaborate in Philadelphia. The best bribe turned out to be food, "the proverbial pie on the windowsill that drew everyone in." They even convinced their record label to add a chef to the budget.

"For me, music and food and creatives go hand-in-hand. So, some 20 plus years, later, I just now call them food salons. And instead of using food to attract musicians to create music, I'm kind of doing the opposite where music is now in the background."

To inspire his "Mixtape Potluck" celebrities on picking out their recipes, Questlove sent along a song that he felt best captured their unique creative energy. Martha Stewart got a Snoop Dogg tune, while vegetarian Natalie Portman got "Vegetables" by The Beach Boys.

Jimmy Fallon, who works with The Roots on "The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon," got Bruce Springsteen's "Hungry Heart" and, in turn, offered his recipe for Air-Fried Chicken Burgers. "Giving him a Bruce Springsteen song is very easy because in his heart, there's a Jersey boy dying to come out in Jimmy Fallon's soul." Questlove relied on his as-

tounding knowledge of music. He admits to being a little ADD and is obsessed with making lists. He has dozens of Spotify playlists and challenges himself to compile things like 100 songs about the color blue or 100 songs in which the title is never sung. His deep insight has led him to produce the AMC show, "Hip Hop: The Songs That Shook America."

To create the book, Holly Dolce, the executive editor at Abrams Books, said Questlove was involved in every aspect: the fonts, the photography, even the metallic sheen of the cover. "He's like a really great director. He's interested in every part of making the book," she said. "He goes off and really makes it all happen."

In many ways, although Questlove doesn't really cook himself, he assembles the ingredients for a good party like any good chef — music, chefs, lighting, drinks and guests. "I'm not into randomness and throw the noodle at the wall and see what sticks, because often that can be a disaster," he said.

In the book, one of the strangest-sounding offerings is for Chocolate Chili from Maya Rudolph, which combines Fritos, chili powder, beans, tomato, cheddar and chocolate. Questlove said despite the combination of seemingly odd flavors, the dish ended up one of his top five favorite recipes.

"It's 2019, the idea of taboo mixing — be it socially, culinary, music-wise, in our entertainment, or politically — shouldn't really shock anyone. I mean, we commonly have accepted the idea of salty caramel, right? Yeah. I'm certain back in 1984, like, 'Wait, you want to put salt and chocolate together? No way.'"

Dolce, who works in the world of food full-time, said she's impressed by Questlove's knack for knowing what are the interesting dishes and who are the chefs to watch. "He just has his finger on the pulse in a way that is almost mind-blowing," she said. □

Organization announces funding for 250 local journalists

By DAVID BAUDER

AP Media Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — An organization that is trying to bolster the struggling local news industry said Monday that it will help fund the hiring of 250 journalists across the country next year.

That's a sharp increase from the 61 journalists put in the field this year by Report for America, an initiative of the GroundTruth Project. Its first class of local reporters in 2018 numbered 13.

With the help of foundation funding, Report for America pays half the salary of these reporters for two years. Local news organizations kick in 25% and agree to raise the remainder from donations by local sources. The growing support illustrates how people outside of the news industry are recognizing what is lost in communities when news organizations struggle. The University of North Carolina estimates that between 26,000 and 32,000 newsroom jobs have been lost across the country since 2004. "These communities need to be heard from and we're really glad to be part of a process ... that is trying to confront the crisis in local news and restore journalism from the ground up," said Charles Sennott, co-founder of Report for America.

Studies show the collapse of local news coverage has contributed to polarization in society and less participation in government, he said. These journalists include the 14 new reporters covering statehouses across the country for The Associated Press, which were announced last week. Sixty-nine daily newspapers, 39 digital-only sites, 39 public radio stations, 12 local TV stations and five non-daily newspapers will add reporters. Among the participants are the Miami Herald, WRAL-TV in Raleigh, North Carolina, Iowa Public Radio, the Brooklyn Eagle and Radio Bilingue in California. Reporters will be placed in 46 states.

Almost half of the new jobs are being added in non-profit newsrooms, according to Report for America. They're specifically being asked to cover a variety of "news deserts," including overlooked rural and urban communities, veterans' issues, health care, the environment, health care and housing.

Report for America is committing \$5 million to pay these reporters and is asking for others to help with training. A variety of funders are participating, including the Facebook Journalism Project, the Google News Initiative, Craig Newmark Philanthropies and the Ford Foundation. The linchpin is the Knight Foundation, which has provided \$5 million in funding over five years. □

Andrew Tyndall. The move is designed in part to take advantage of O'Donnell's strengths as a reporter with a long background in Washington, said Jay Shaylor, the broadcast's new executive producer, who joined CBS News from CNN. CBS News built a new studio for the newscast. O'Donnell has covered the White House, Capitol Hill and the Pentagon in her career as a reporter. She's been anchor of the "CBS

Dictionary.com chooses 'existential' as word of the year

By LEANNE ITALIE

AP Entertainment Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Climate change, gun violence, the very nature of democracy and an angsty little movie star called Forky helped propel "existential" to Dictionary.com's word of the year.

The choice reflects months of high-stakes threats and crises, real and pondered, across the news, the world and throughout 2019. "In our data, it speaks to this sense of grappling with our survival, both literally and figuratively, that defined so much of the discourse," said John Kelly, senior research editor for the site, ahead of Monday's announcement.

The word earned top of mind awareness in sustained searches at Dictionary.com in the aftermath of wildfires and Hurricane Dorian, and mass shootings in Christchurch, New Zealand, and El Paso, Texas. It also reared itself in presidential politics and pop culture, including Forky the white plastic spork who was the breakout star of "Toy Story 4."

The soiled utensil is convinced his destiny is in the trash, until he embraces his purpose as a treasured toy of kindergartener Bonnie.

"Forky underscores how this sense of grappling can also inspire us to ask big questions about who



This Sunday, Dec. 1, 2019, photo shows the word "existential" in a dictionary in the Brooklyn borough of New York.

Associated Press

we are, about our purpose," Kelly told The Associated Press.

Oxford Dictionaries picked "climate emergency" as its word of the year, noting usage evidence that reflects the "ethos, mood, or preoccupations of the passing year," the company said in a statement.

Dictionary.com crunches lookup and other data to decide which word to anoint each year. The site has been picking a word of the year since 2010.

Among search spikes for "existential" were those that occurred after both Democratic presidential contender Bernie Sanders and 16-year-old climate activist Greta Thunberg characterized climate change as an "existential" crisis, Kelly said.

Another spike occurred when former Vice President Joe Biden, also vy-

ing for the Democratic presidential nod, painted President Donald Trump as an "existential threat" to decency.

The word dates to 1685, deriving from Late Latin's "existentialis." Dictionary.com defines existential as "of or relating to existence" and "of, relating to, or characteristic of philosophical existentialism; concerned with the nature of human existence as determined by the individual's freely made choices."

Climate, guns and the impeachment crisis for Donald Trump were just a few areas that seemed to frame debate in existential terms.

So did the Hong Kong protests, the Notre Dame fire, tensions between the United States and China, and Big Tech's privacy and fake news problems. □

CBS moves 'Evening News' to Washington

By DAVID BAUDER

AP Media Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Anchor Norah O'Donnell's move from New York to Washington gives the "CBS Evening News" a unique calling card among the three network newscasts starting Monday. Although nightly newscasts have split home bases in the past, this will be the first time either the ABC, CBS or NBC broadcast will call Washington home full time, said news consultant

Evening News" since July. The timing of the move would seem to be perfect, with the House Judiciary Committee beginning its impeachment hearings for President Donald Trump this week, and the 2020 presidential primary season about to begin.

Although CBS hopes to take advantage of the new location, that doesn't mean the broadcast will become Washington-centric, Shaylor said. □



This image released by CBS shows Norah O'Donnell, host of the new "CBS Evening News with Norah O'Donnell." CBS will broadcast their evening news show from a new studio in Washington, beginning Monday, Dec. 2.

Associated Press

Rock tragedy: Music superstars, small suburb forever linked

By DAN SEWELL

Associated Press

FINNEYTOWN, Ohio (AP) — The concrete bench in a small northern Cincinnati suburb depicts a guitar, with the message "My Generation" just below it.

In the background are plaques with the faces of three teenagers, Jackie Eckerle, Karen Morrison and Stephan Preston, frozen in time 40 years ago. Bricks in the plaza around the bench carry eight other names.

All 11 were killed in a frantic stampede of people trying to get into the British rock band The Who's concert on Dec. 3, 1979, at Cincinnati's Riverfront Coliseum. The city of Finneytown suffered disproportionately, and its three losses included the two youngest victims, 15-year-olds Eckerle and Morrison. Their schoolmates say well over 100 other people from Finneytown were there.

"Everyone's connected to it, everywhere you go around here," said Fred Wittenbaum, who was a freshman at Finneytown High School then but did not attend the concert. "Either they went to the concert, or they had a friend or a family member who was there."

Since then, the community of around 12,000 people, many living in ranch-style homes built years before the concert, has been inextricably linked with The Who, which was already well on the way to the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame with such hits as "Won't Get Fooled Again," "Can't Explain," and "My Generation," an anthem of rebellious youth.

Most of the blame afterward focused on the first-come, first-served arrangement for seating that saw thousands of fans line up for hours ready to charge toward the coveted floor spots, and on confusion over and lack of preparation for when the doors were opening. Besides those trampled in the stampede, some two dozen other fans were injured.

Frontman Roger Daltrey



In this Wednesday, Nov. 20, 2019 photo, a memorial plaque for eleven concertgoers killed at a 1979 concert stands between Great American Ballpark and Heritage Bank Arena, in Cincinnati.

Associated Press

and guitarist Pete Townshend, the last survivors of the original band, say they have struggled emotionally over the years with the concert carnage, which

carry with us."

"It took a long time for us to get a sense that this was not just about the 11 kids, it was about the community," Townshend told The Associated Press.

and dedicated songs such as The Who's "Love Ain't For Keeping" to those who died at the concert. Hutchins was at The Who concert; he skipped school that



In this Dec. 3, 1979 file photo, concert-goers and a policeman stand with a pile of shoes and clothing which were left after a crowd surged toward doors to Cincinnati's riverfront coliseum to get into a rock concert by British rock band The Who, in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Associated Press

they didn't know about until their show was ending.

"Because there's always a certain amount, 'If I hadn't been doing this, it wouldn't have happened,' you know," Daltrey said during an unpublicized visit last year to the Finneytown memorial site. "That's just human nature. That's what we

ated Press in a recent interview in New York.

The sad stories and traumatic memories among Finneytown alums evolved three decades later into a plan to memorialize their friends.

John Hutchins was playing an acoustic set at a nearby venue in December 2009

day, got to the coliseum nearly seven hours early to be among the first in line, and got close enough to the stage to see The Who's song list.

Fellow Finneytown High alum Steve Bentz, who wasn't at the concert, approached Hutchins after his performance with a

thought, that "we should do something." The thought soon grew into the memorial bench.

They joined with Wittenbaum and Walt Medlock — who remembers being pressed tightly against Preston before making the possibly life-saving decision to work his way out of the crowd — to create the P.E.M. scholarship fund, using the last-name initials of their three schoolmates.

"We wanted to take what was a terrible tragedy and try and turn it into something that could be looked at as good," Wittenbaum explained. "We wanted to pay it forward."

Launched in 2010, the scholarships reward three Finneytown students with \$5,000 each for the study of music or any other arts. There have awarded 27 so far.

Auctions and raffles at an annual December show featuring music by alumni at the school's performing arts center help pay for the scholarships. The Who became involved in the third year, making an exclusive DVD for showing at that year's benefit with comments from the band about the tragedy and new concert footage.

More aid from the band followed. Last year, Wittenbaum drove Daltrey from a private airstrip near Dayton to view the Finneytown memorials that include artwork, personal items and photos of the three in a Who-donated display case. Daltrey also met with relatives of those killed and with fans who attended the concert.

"It's been a really cathartic process for everybody," Wittenbaum said.

Daltrey-autographed books, albums, guitars and other items have been sold online, including on the band's official site, to add to the fund. The P.E.M. leaders' next goal is to see Daltrey and Townshend perform in Cincinnati for the first time since the deadly concert. In the AP interview, Townshend said the band plans to return to Cincinnati. □